



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Madrid Talks

Israelis Consider Moves Before Opening of Talks

Displeased With Palestinian Proposal

TA2910162391 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1430 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman and Eldad Beck, anchored by Rafi Reshef—live from Madrid]

[Excerpts] [Reshef] We will first hear from Eldad about the new Palestinian proposal to force Israel to confer exclusively and alternately with the Palestinian delegation.

[Beck] The proposal is very simple: Israel would meet with the so-called joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in the same room to negotiate bilateral issues. However, the joint delegation—which the Palestinians insist is made up of two separate delegations—would be allowed to change the delegates negotiating with Israel, according to the issues on the agenda. In other words, if the issue being discussed pertains to the territories, the joint delegation would be allowed to send only Palestinian representatives. If the issue being discussed pertains to Jordan, the joint delegation would send only Jordanian representatives. Of course, Israel could very well be faced with some joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

[Reshef] Natan, how are Israeli delegates reacting to this idea?

[Gutman] They are definitely not pleased. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who arrived in Madrid this afternoon at the head of the Israeli delegation, said that he had yet to discuss the matter with the Americans. He will definitely do that, in the meeting he is scheduled to hold later this evening with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. [passage omitted]

Going back to the Palestinian proposal, this was definitely the topic of the day today among the Israeli delegates. This attempt to alternate the participants in the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in the course of the bilateral negotiations certainly worries Israel. It turns out that this point was not settled in the U.S. letter of assurances.

We asked Cabinet Secretary Elyakim Rubinstein, one of the most senior members of the Israeli delegation, to comment on the issue:

[Rubinstein] We are here to hold negotiations with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. We are not unaware of the fact that there are bilateral interests shared by Israel and Jordan, while other points are more pertinent to the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. We will be meeting a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, and we will decide the working procedures with it. This is not a restaurant where customers choose and order whatever part of the

menu they like; there are procedures. We will abide by the rules, and we hope others will proceed likewise.

[Reshef] Prime Minister Shamir is scheduled to confer with U.S. Secretary Baker later this evening. Is it the assessment of the Israeli delegation that other misunderstandings are expected to crop up with the Americans, or have we actually come to terms with this unfortunate reality?

[Gutman] In practice, we have come to terms with this unfortunate reality, but we are not pleased. After all, Israel can no longer change the procedures of the conference. As for the bilateral negotiations, it would be very hard to introduce any changes at this point. In the meeting with the U.S. secretary of state, the prime minister is expected to reiterate the Israeli position, which is somewhat feeble at this point, demanding that the bilateral negotiations be held in the capitals of the Middle East.

In this context, allow me to point out what Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu stated in a briefing to foreign correspondents a few minutes ago, that in his opinion the best confidence-building measure is simply to conduct direct negotiations in the Middle East proper. In the meeting with Baker this evening, however, Shamir will voice Israel's displeasure with the latest arrangements made by the United States. [passage omitted]

Netanyahu on "Bad Surprise"

TA2910201191 Jerusalem Israel Television Network
in Hebrew 1725 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Interview with Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu by Hayim Yavin and Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari—live from Madrid]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Yavin] The Palestinians, at least those here in Madrid, are thriving. They have two delegations instead of one.

[Netanyahu] This was a bad surprise for us.

[Ya'ari] Did the Americans cheat Mr. Shamir?

[Netanyahu] They did not give us an explicit commitment. I cannot say that they gave us an explicit commitment, but the understanding was that we want a joint rather than a divided delegation. Obviously, the procedure chosen leads to a divided delegation, but I think what is involved here goes beyond procedure. We are embarking on a lengthy and problematic process—and I will not tell you otherwise—whose success requires the building of confidence, between us and the Palestinians first of all and between us and those who are supposed to mediate between us and the Arabs.

[Yavin] You mean an honest broker. Is it possible that we were cheated, that we were not told the whole truth?

[Netanyahu] I think that what counts, that the principle we insist upon....

[Yavin, interrupting] What will Shamir tell Baker today?

[Netanyahu] I think the important principle we insist upon and which will undoubtedly be raised this evening in the meeting between the prime minister and the secretary of state is that we do not want to be surprised. We constitute 50 percent of this process. We demand and are entitled to know things beforehand and to be consulted. I think this does not only apply to the current conference, however important it may be.

We are about to enter bilateral negotiations with several delegations. Such talks can be carried out and lead to positive results only on condition that we stick to the rules. You may have noticed that somebody here tried to break with procedures and call a news conference, but ultimately the rules were adhered to. By the same token, we demand adherence to the agreements we reached. If we do that, I have no doubt that we will break the walls of hatred and hostility.

[Yavin] One gets the feeling that we keep making one concession after another, like a salami cut slice by slice. Does the Israeli delegation have any red lines?

[Netanyahu] It not only has red lines, but vital and crucial interests. Since we have not yet even begun to touch upon those issues, I suggest that you do not form any impressions based on the opening moves. I think we should bear in mind that many points Israel insisted upon—that there should be no PLO members in the delegation and that substantive resolutions should not be passed in this conference—were accepted, and I do not think they will change. We will fight hard if somebody tries to make any changes, but I do not think this will happen.

[Yavin] Will we blow up the conference over the question of the dual Palestinian-Jordanian delegation?

[Netanyahu] I do not think one can say that the delegation has been divided. There was a move to do that, which is a negative move. I think what is important now is to hear what these delegates will say and where we will proceed from there, under which framework the direct negotiations will be held. Ultimately, there are two important elements from Israel's point of view: first, the symbolism of tomorrow's meeting face to face. This is a very important achievement as far as Israel is concerned. As for the second element, the practical work, this we will conduct only in direct negotiations. We will discuss the substantive issues with the Palestinians, the Jordanians, the Lebanese, and the Syrians in direct negotiations.

[Yavin] I gather from what you say that Mr. Shamir will not present the demand that the Palestinians once again become one as a prerequisite to Baker.

[Netanyahu] You are the one who insists on dividing it. Admittedly, some sort of division has occurred, but as

long as the framework is being maintained we will insist that it be kept and upheld in the direct negotiations.

[Yavin] We hear—and this may only be a rumor—that the Spanish propose Spain as the venue for the bilateral and multilateral talks. Will we accept this offer?

[Netanyahu] We have already said that we have no objection to discussing the framework and the venue of the direct negotiations in the course of the conference in Madrid. As far as Israel is concerned, however, I think everybody understands that peace negotiations should not be conducted in Europe. Peace already exists in Europe, whereas there is as yet no peace in the Middle East. Holding the talks in the region—in Israel, Syria, and Jordan—will enhance peace and legitimize Israel in Arab public opinion.

[Yavin] Will we also agree to proximity talks with the Syrians?

[Netanyahu] What we have in mind is not proximity talks, but talks in our region.

[Yavin] Direct talks or talks with American and Soviet mediators?

[Netanyahu] That is altogether a different question, which has to do with the participants rather than with the venue.

[Yavin] That is the question on the agenda now; this is what the Syrians demand, talks through mediators.

[Netanyahu] The rule we agreed upon and which the Americans reiterate at our insistence is that other participants would be allowed to join only with the agreement of the sides. What Israel wants first of all is to hold direct peace negotiations with Syria, Jordan, and any other Arab who comes forth.

More on Shamir Letter to Baker

TA3010083591 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT
in Hebrew 30 Oct 91 p 3

[By Shim'on Schiffer in Madrid]

[Text] Israel informed the United States that it would not under any circumstances agree to discuss the status of Jerusalem in negotiations with the Arabs and Palestinians.

These remarks are included in a letter Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir sent to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker before leaving for the Madrid peace conference.

In his two-page letter, the contents of which became known to our political correspondent, Shamir explained to Baker what sources in the Israeli entourage in Madrid call Israel's "basic positions on a Palestinian state, Jerusalem, interim arrangements, and the border issue."

The following are some of the points raised in Shamir's letter:

—Jerusalem will not at any stage or in any form be the subject of negotiations between Israel and the Arabs and Palestinians.

—Israel will sign an accord for the establishment of self-government for the Palestinians in Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip only with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation—in other words, only if the Jordanian Government's signature appears on the arrangement. Israel will not sign any separate agreement with the Palestinians on the establishment of self-government—autonomy in the territories.

—Israel will firmly and uncompromisingly oppose the establishment of a Palestinian state in the territories.

Our correspondent points out that the prime minister does not mention in his letter even a single word about the Golan Heights or anything to do with that area.

High-level sources in the Israeli delegation to Madrid told our correspondent that Shamir's message was aimed at preventing misunderstandings with the Americans at the opening of discussions at the Madrid peace conference. The sources said Shamir told his close associates: "I want the Americans to know our positions and not to say in the future that we did not say how far we are prepared to go in the negotiations."

The letter to Secretary Baker was sent on 28 October, two days before the opening of the Madrid conference.

Shamir Hopes for 'New Era,' Peace

TA3010091191 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0845 GMT 30 Oct 91

[By political correspondent Natan Gutman from the Princessa Hotel in Madrid—live]

[Text] The Israeli delegation left for the opening session of the Madrid peace conference a few minutes ago. Upon his departure, we tried to hear a comment or two from the prime minister.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] With what feeling are you leaving for the conference, Mr. Shamir?

[Shamir] Well, with hope. I hope that, despite all doubts and difficulties we are witnessing, this may be the beginning of a new era in the region.

[Gutman] Do you believe that we can indeed emerge with peace from this conference, which is opening in an hour here?

[Shamir] Look, the conference is opening in an hour. I do not know when it will be over. It could take a long time, for all we know. I think that the longer the conference lasts, the greater the chance for positive results.

[Qol Yisra'el political correspondent Arye Golan] How will the conference end? Do you have any expectations?

[Shamir] I hope it will end with peace. Thank you. [end recording]

Sides Hold Contacts Before Conference Begins

Baker, Shamir Talks 'Businesslike'

TA2910221591 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
2050 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman—live from Madrid]

[Text] The Baker-Shamir meeting ended some time ago. It lasted nearly an hour, and as Shamir's aides described it, it was businesslike. When a conversation is described in such terms, it means that the atmosphere was not too good.

The prime minister came to Secretary of State James Baker with complaints on two main issues: One, the remarks by Palestinian delegation member Sa'ib 'Urayqat according to which he was appointed by the PLO; and the other, the issue of equal time, meaning that the Palestinians are to get 45 minutes to deliver an independent speech, just as the Jordanians.

The Americans, as it was defined by a political source, took note of those points. Right now, however, there is no change; in other words, the prime minister's requests to change those things were simply rejected.

The main issue on the agenda right now, on the eve of the opening of the Madrid conference, is the location of the bilateral discussions. Sources in the Israeli delegation denied reports that Syria is not willing to hold the bilateral talks without the presence of a third party as an observer. In any event, the main issue right now is the location. Israel is perhaps expecting some reward for its giving in on the issue of 'Urayqat and the equal time, namely, it is expecting that the talks take place in the region.

The option of Cairo, raised today, has not been rejected, although Israel is still saying: The talks have to be held alternately in Jerusalem and the capital or some other location of the country with which negotiations are held, which is the way it has always been. In his conversation with Baker today, Prime Minister Shamir noted all the precedents of peace talks, all of which were held in the region. Shamir said he would not like to establish a new precedent.

Bush-Shamir Talks Detailed

TA3010080891 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0730 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Report by Natan Gutman from the Princessa Hotel in Madrid—live]

[Excerpt] We have information from the meeting between Prime Minister Shamir and U.S. President George Bush. The prime minister did not raise in the

meeting the two issues he discussed with Baker yesterday: Sa'ib 'Urayqat's participation in the Palestinian delegation and the equal time allotted for the Palestinian speech. The Israeli delegation simply thought it would be a waste of time. The issue was settled yesterday with Baker, and since the conference starts in two hours, there is no point in discussing these two points. It was made clear that the United States does not plan to be of any help.

Shamir spoke at length about terrorism and the latest terrorist acts in Israel. President Bush denounced the attacks, but pointed out that there are terrorist acts everywhere in the world. He said the extremists must not be permitted to take over the process.

The prime minister went on in detail about the location of the bilateral talks and Israel's firm demand that they take place in the region, alternately in Jerusalem and the Arab capitals. Shamir went into detail about all the precedents of peace talks and cease-fire talks in the region. President Bush interjected that the Camp David talks were in Washington. Shamir replied: That was only the final stage, and we will also agree to sign the final peace accord in Washington in your presence, Mr. President.

Sources participating in the meeting got the impression that the Americans are trying to downgrade the issue of the site. They present it as marginal issue in comparison to the process itself, which is important. [passage omitted]

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0800 GMT on 30 October reports that "Prime Minister Shamir, departing from the meeting with President Bush, was asked whether he was satisfied with the outcome, and he replied that he was satisfied with the talk itself."]

Media Adviser on Bush-Shamir Meeting

TA3010090491 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
0805 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Interview with Ehud Gol, the prime minister's media adviser, by political correspondent Arye Golan at the Princessa Hotel in Madrid—live]

[Text] [Golan] Ehud Gol, good morning to you. You participated in the meeting with President Bush.

[Gol] Indeed, this morning.

[Golan] What was the atmosphere during the talk?

[Gol] It was a very friendly, very warm atmosphere, and a matter-of-fact one, I would say.

[Golan] Still, there were no results; that is, President Bush did not tell the prime minister that the United States, at least—if not the Arab states—accepts the Israeli stance that the direct bilateral talks should be held in the Middle East, in the Arab countries and in Israel.

[Gol] Well, that was one of the three main topics that came up during the talk. The prime minister raised the issue of Palestinian terrorism, which has been raging lately. He emphasized to the President the serious fact that a group of people, some of whom are here, think that two measures should be taken: on one hand, talking about peace; and on the other, justifying calls for an escalation in the intifadah. He also stressed to the President the Syrian radicalism, which was reflected, for example, in Syria's refusal to participate in the multilateral talks.

As for the bilateral talks, Shamir reiterated to the President the positions he mentioned to the secretary of state last night about the need to conduct these talks in the region, not only for logistic and technical reasons, but also for the simple reason that this will create a comfortable and appropriate atmosphere for the promotion of the peace process. He elaborated on the historic precedents, including the signing of the armistice agreements in 1948-1949, the talks with the Egyptians, and the talks with the Lebanese. All those talks were held in the region, and this time too we want to hold them in the region, so as to give a push to the process.

[Golan] This was to no avail though. In reaction, President Bush mentioned that the Camp David talks took place in the United States.

[Gol] I would say that the President understood the Israeli position. Still, he noted to the prime minister that the Arab position does not accept the Israeli proposal. I still hope that the Americans will continue their talks with the Arabs, as the President emphasized. I cannot categorically and clearly say that the United States will indeed bring its full weight to bear on the Arabs to accept the Israeli proposal, but the Americans surely understand our position.

[Golan] Ehud Gol, what has the prime minister been doing during the last hour before the opening ceremony of the peace conference begins?

[Gol] The prime minister is talking and consulting with his closest advisers. We will be leaving for the palace where the conference will open in about 30 minutes.

[Golan] Mr. Shamir's mood has often been a subject of questions recently. How is his mood this morning, after the talk with Bush?

[Gol] Very high and optimistic. He is aware of the greatness of the hour and the responsibility he is shouldering, and it is surely with this feeling that he is going to the opening session this morning.

[Golan] Ehud Gol, thank you.

Shamir on Gorbachev Meeting

TA2910191491 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1713 GMT 29 Oct 91

By political correspondent Arye Golan—live from Madrid]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's meeting with USSR President Gorbachev has just ended. Upon emerging from the meeting, Shamir told us that it was pleasant. It was good to talk, it was good to exchange views; in short, it was a good conversation, Shamir said.

Naturally, we asked him about the negotiations, the peace conference, and everything that is going to take place in Madrid and continue later in the bilateral talks. Israel Television correspondent Gadi Suenik asked him whether he had crossed any red lines on his way to the conference:

[Begin recording] [Shamir] What red lines? I have no red lines. I follow a single line, my own line, that of Eretz Yisra'el.

[Golan] Meaning?

[Shamir] Explain it yourself. There are no red lines. There are no pressures. We meet people here. We talk with them and explain our stands. This is how we will continue, and we will insist on our line.

[Golan] If the Americans do not accept your demands and insist that the Palestinians have an independent status, will we stay in?

[Shamir] [word indistinct] the negotiations. We will present our stand.

[Suenik] Will the things that surround the conference make you toughen your stands, in the direct negotiations perhaps?

[Shamir] There is no need to toughen or moderate anything. I have my own stand which, in fact, is the stand of the majority of the Israeli public: Most of the public wants peace, most of the people want to defend our stands so that we can go on living.

[Golan] Do you expect a pleasant conversation with President Bush tomorrow as well?

[Shamir] What is there to expect? Let me talk to him first, and then we will talk.

[Golan] Mr. Shamir, Sa'ib 'Urayqat stated that he is a PLO man. Will you sit across the table from him when you see him in the hall tomorrow?

[Shamir] I do not feel like sitting with him.

[Golan] Will you get up and leave?

[Shamir] Leave it for us to decide.

[Golan] Have you not decided yet, sir?

[Shamir] I do not have to make a decision on each and every detail ahead of time. This is a problem, nonetheless.

[Golan] Will you raise it in the meetings with Baker and Bush?

[Shamir] Undoubtedly. [end recording]

The prime minister will meet James Baker in some 30 minutes, and we will update you again then.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1735 GMT on 29 October carries a similar report by political correspondent Natan Gutman, adding that when asked whether current circumstances allow direct negotiations, Shamir replied: "We want direct negotiations, direct talks, and we have various conditions and demands that we prefer; we prefer to have them allow the negotiations to lead to positive results." Gutman says that "Shamir's remarks do not sound like an ultimatum, and therefore it is possible that the negotiations will not be held in the region, as Israel has been demanding."]

Soviet Aide Cited

TA2910211391 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1900 GMT 29 Oct 91

[By Eldad Beck—live from Madrid]

[Text] Andrey Grachev, spokesman of USSR President Gorbachev, reported after the historic meeting between Gorbachev and Prime Minister Shamir, and I am quoting him on this, that the atmosphere in the discussion was very good. The two discussed bilateral issues. They expressed their satisfaction that the diplomatic relations between Israel and the USSR have been renewed after they were severed for so long and stressed that the renewal of the relations on the eve of the peace conference was a very positive step.

They also expressed a common wish to develop the relations between the two countries in all areas: economy, agriculture, and industry. Shamir and Gorbachev agreed that both parties have lost due to such a long absence of diplomatic ties, and expressed the hope that the damage caused would be mended. They agreed to continue meetings on political levels, including the level of heads of states, and raised the possibility of setting up a telephone hot line between the two capitals for political consultations.

Shamir invited Gorbachev to visit Israel, but the USSR president did not give a positive answer. Gorbachev did not reject the Israeli invitation, but for the time being no date has been slated for the Soviet leader's visit to Israel. The two discussed the peace process and the issue of terminating the Middle East arms race. They concluded that both parties—Israel and the USSR—have very similar opinions on this issue.

In response to an IDF Radio correspondent's question, the USSR president's spokesman said that when Shamir raised the issue, Gorbachev said that he supports a collective agreement by all the parties involved in the Middle East conflict concerning an end of the arms race.

and an agreement that would include the parties that sell weapons to the various Middle East parties.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Gorbachev expressed the Soviet Administration's protest against the terror attack that took place in Israel yesterday. Shamir said that now he understands the Russians much better than before the meeting with the USSR leader.

Syrian Delegation Arrives

LD2910195591 Madrid RNE-1 Radio Network
in Spanish 1900 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Excerpts] The last Arabs to arrive in Madrid barely an hour ago at Barajas Airport were the representatives of the Syrian delegation. Good evening, [correspondent] Hector Arenas.

[Arenas] Good evening, [passage omitted] The Syrian delegation, which could take a hardline stance toward the Israelis at the conference, has arrived in Madrid led by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. [passage omitted]

Al-Shar' on Talk With Baker

JN3010072391 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic
Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Excerpts] The Middle East peace conference will open today at the Spanish Royal Palace at 1130 Damascus time, in the presence of U.S. President George Bush, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez.

Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', head of the Syrian Arab delegation to the conference, is scheduled to meet with U.S. President Bush prior to the opening of the conference.

Al-Shar' met yesterday evening with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker at his place of residence at the Palace Hotel in Madrid. [passage omitted]

Asked if Syria would like to have the United States and the Soviet Union participate in the negotiations, al-Shar' said that U.S. and Soviet participation is a very helpful factor, whether in regard to the talks or the entire peace process.

Speaking to reporters following the end of the meeting, al-Shar' said: We reviewed with Mr. Baker the good arrangements of the conference, and we were satisfied with our similar views. We also discussed issues related to the peace conference arrangements.

Asked if he was optimistic, al-Shar' said: We are serious about reaching a just, comprehensive solution that restores the occupied Arab territories and Palestinian rights, and establishes real peace in the region.

Upon his arrival at his place of residence in Madrid yesterday evening, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' made a statement to reporters. He said the conference is

important and historic and is a means of achieving peace on the basis of UN resolutions and international legitimacy.

The foreign minister added: The results we want from this conference and subsequent talks are the restoration of all the occupied Arab territories and ensuring the legitimate national and political rights of the Palestinian Arab people, primarily their right to self-determination. Without achieving these results, peace will not be achieved in our region. The entire world is aware that Israel is now the only party that refuses to abide by UN resolutions and the principles of international legitimacy.

Al-Shar' added: It is true that this conference is important and historic; at the same time, however, history will hold Israel accountable if during the peace process it refuses to return the occupied Arab territories it has occupied by force and war. He went on to say: The Syrian position, we believe, expresses the Arab position, and strongly adheres to principles of international law and the implementation of UN Resolutions 242 and 338, which have won the support of the entire international community.

Al-Shar' also said: We at the peace conference in Madrid are defending a just cause and demanding justice, because our demands are legitimate and approved by the world, primarily the cosponsors of the conference, the United States and the Soviet Union, European countries, and other nations and regional organizations.

Al-Shar' added: We also believe that coordination among the Arab parties participating in the peace conference is necessary to meet Arab demands for withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and for ensuring the rights of the Palestinian Arab people. This coordination, in addition, will help to bring about a comprehensive and just settlement which the international community, optimistically and eagerly, is looking forward to implementing in our region.

Answering a question concerning the stance of the two peace conference cosponsors regarding its proceedings, al-Shar' said: The letter of assurances given to Syria, and the letter from U.S. President George Bush to President Hafiz al-Asad, contain a clear assertion that the United States and the Soviet Union will act as catalysts at the conference and the subsequent talks to bring about the desired results. He added that the terms of reference prepared by Presidents Bush and Gorbachev is the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 in toto on all fronts.

Al-Shar' concluded: The Syrian delegation has come to the peace conference with a serious and clear intention to achieve results leading to a peace that restores the occupied territories and ensures the return of usurped Arab rights. [passage omitted]

Jordan's Abu-Jabir on Bush Meeting

JN1010144391 Amman Radio Jordan Network
in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] A short while before the opening of the peace conference, President George Bush today met with Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir, foreign minister and head of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, and the heads of the Jordanian and Palestinian sides in the delegation. Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir spoke to our correspondent in Madrid on the topics discussed during the meetings. Here are the details:

During the meeting, Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir conveyed to the U.S. President an oral message from His Majesty King Husayn, including greetings from his majesty to the U.S. President and hopes of success in his efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. The king also praised the efforts made by the President in that regard and his determination to achieve a comprehensive settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and resolve the Palestine question. During the meeting, the U.S. President presented the U.S. viewpoint on achieving peace and the United States' determination to realize it.

Dr. Abu-Jabir explained to the U.S. President the Jordanian viewpoint on current developments, the demands and ideas related to the achievement of peace, and the need to arrive at a comprehensive and just peace in accordance with international legitimacy. Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir spoke to our correspondent in Madrid on his meeting with U.S. President George Bush and the topics they discussed:

[Begin recording] [Abu-Jabir] We touched on a number of topics, mostly bilateral issues, including economic conditions and the situation in Jordan now. The President showed all understanding of the Jordanian conditions and readiness to support the Jordanian position on all levels. As for the more important topic, the peace conference, I asserted to him the need for continuous U.S. involvement, both on personal and official levels by President Bush, particularly on the issue of settlement activities, and that settlement activities must be halted as soon as possible because this is a very vital issue for us, not only in the short-term, but also in the long-term.

[Al-Sharif] How did you view the U.S. President's position?

[Abu-Jabir] His position was supportive. He said their policy on settlement activities is known, and that they constitute an obstacle to peace. He also said they will not retreat from that position and will do all they can to pressure the other side, or talk to the other side, on that issue. [end recording]

Following the meeting, the U.S. President said the presence of Palestinian representatives in the peace conference is a historic event. He said: This is a historic day, and I am pleased that they are here. Their mere presence has a historic meaning.

President Bush met respectively with the heads of the Israeli, Egyptian, Lebanese, and Syrian delegations before he made his opening speech at the conference.

JNA has cited sources in the Jordanian delegation to the peace conference as saying that bilateral talks between the Arab and Israeli sides will be held in Madrid.

Dr. Abu-Jabir, foreign minister and head of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, has said he does not know yet if the negotiations will take a long time or how they will develop, because, he added, they will be technically complicated. He said: As far as we Jordanians and Palestinians are concerned, the negotiations concern the substance of our existence and are important for the entire world.

In an interview with JNA, Dr. Abu-Jabir said that the constants in the Jordanian stand are the suspension of settlements; Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, including Arab Jerusalem; and the recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights and their right to self-determination.

In reply to the Israeli prime minister's statements broadcast on a U.S. television network today, in which Shamir announced settlements in the occupied territories will not be suspended, Dr. Abu-Jabir said that the Israeli prime minister has come to Madrid knowing exactly why he came, and knowing that the peace conference is based on all the UN resolutions, on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and on international legitimacy, which is the basis of the conference. He said that Shamir places a ceiling on Israeli conditions, but I believe he knows that the world in general wants to attain a peaceful settlement to the conflict in the region.

Regarding the European stand on the peace efforts, Dr. Abu-Jabir said: The European stand is supportive of peace. They do not want to intervene more than necessary, because they believe that the situation is extremely delicate. He said that the Europeans are very eager for a settlement and the attainment of peace.

Dr. Abu-Jabir said that the UN stand is similar to the European stand in its support of peace. The conference was supposed to have been held under UN auspices, but circumstances led to something else. We hope that, to attain peace, the future role of the United Nations will be expanded. Dr. Abu-Jabir explained that the entire world knows that Israel was established by a UN resolution, on the basis of UN legitimacy.

In reply to a question on whether he is optimistic about the possibility of attaining peace, Dr. Abu-Jabir said: My optimism is fraught with caution. He said he hopes that the other side, Israel, is ready for peace and for negotiations. He said that although Israel claims that it has apprehensions vis-a-vis the attainment of peace, we also have our apprehensions, and this reaffirms the need for a just and comprehensive settlement.

Regarding the U.S. President's statements on leaving the peace process up to the negotiators, Dr. Abu-Jabir said: We constantly need the United States to give a push to the peace process. He said he hopes that President George Bush will continue to devote his attention toward pushing the peace process ahead.

Lebanon's Buwayz Meets Bush

NC3010102891 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Excerpts] Our correspondent in Madrid has just reported that U.S. President George Bush received Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz at the residence of the U.S. ambassador in Madrid. Minister Buwayz was accompanied by three members of the Lebanese delegation: Ambassadors Zafir al-Hasan, Mahmud Hammud, and 'Abbas Hamiyah. The meeting lasted 20 minutes. [passage omitted]

Following the meeting, Minister Buwayz made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Buwayz] We talked with President Bush about what Lebanon is expecting from this conference. We stressed that the south is the fuse that threatens to sabotage this conference and the entire region if the situation is not tackled very quickly. We also stressed the need for tackling the situation in the south as a priority and as a prelude for peace in the region.

[Unidentified correspondent] Has he given you specific assurances?

[Buwayz] President Bush expressed full understanding of Lebanon's situation. He praised the Lebanese state's efforts to rebuild its institutions. He promised to support Lebanon's cause and to help it retrieve its rights.

[Correspondent] Following yesterday's meeting with the Arab foreign ministers at the conference, what can we say about the Arab atmosphere now in Madrid before the start of the negotiations?

[Buwayz] Naturally, there is an understanding between all the Arab ministers on the basic issues, even though there are differences over the method that should be followed. I can say that there is a full commitment on the basic, vital issues.

[Correspondent] There is some fear that Lebanon will be isolated in the conference. Has [words indistinct]?

[Buwayz] I believe Lebanon is here with its Arab brothers and within the context of the principle of Arab solidarity. Coordination will not isolate Lebanon and will enable it to present its cause in the best possible way.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Minister.

Lebanese Delegates Named

NC2910121791 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic
1130 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry team in Madrid—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz chaired a meeting attended by the Lebanese delegation in his suite at noon today. As is known, the Lebanese delegation is made up of: Ambassadors Zafir al-Hasan, Samir Mubarak, Jihad Murada, Mahmud Hammud, Naji Abu-Asi, and former ambassador in Madrid 'Abbas Hamiyah. The delegation also includes Counselor Yusuf Itanyus, political adviser Ilyas Hadad, and information adviser Isabella Iddih.

The meeting was devoted to specifying the task of the delegation members. The conferees discussed the topics which will be raised during the conference. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Delegation Prepares for Conference

LD2910164691 Madrid RNE-1 Radio Network
in Spanish 1300 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Let us hear what the Jordanian-Palestinian representatives have been doing this morning. Here is Antonio Alonso.

[Alonso] Good afternoon. The Jordanian-Palestinian delegation was working behind closed doors all morning at the Hotel Victoria, putting the final touches to its contribution to the conference, which will be made separately the day after tomorrow. Only Jordanian Foreign Minister Kamil Abu-Jabir and Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation, left the hotel early to be received at Moncloa Palace by Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez.

Prior to the news conference, scheduled in principle for this afternoon, Zahirah Kamal—who will attend the conference as a member of the delegation and who is chairwoman of the Federation of Women's Action Committees in Gaza and the West Bank, repeated to us this morning the positive attitude with which they have come to Madrid, although she acknowledges that there are those among the Palestinian people who oppose the conference.

[Begin Kamal recording in English with Spanish voice-over] It is natural that there are some people who are against this conference because they have suffered greatly. We, who represent the majority, have the same aim although we differ in the way of achieving it. We believe that any agreement reached here is something positive. We believe that the attitude is not the same in the Israeli delegation, which is led by the hardline wing personified by Shamir. [end recording]

The Israeli delegation will certainly not be happy with the news that a group of representatives of the PLO, led

by Nabil Sha'th, is already in Madrid, or will arrive shortly, according to different sources. Zahirah Kamal ruled out any meetings between the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and this PLO delegation.

[Begin Kamal recording] We are not meeting with any official member of the PLO, that is one of the conditions. [end recording]

In itself the delegation represents the PLO, so we were told by Hanna Sinyurah, who has come as an adviser in the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

[Begin Sinyurah recording in English with superimposed Spanish translation] The delegation represents the Palestinians, and the PLO is present because it is their legitimate representative. [end recording]

Hanna Sinyurah made clear what position they will be defending in the conference.

[Begin Sinyurah recording] The Palestinian delegation is coming to negotiate in good faith and we have several questions to submit, above all that Israel has to withdraw from the occupied territories in accordance with UN resolutions and international law. As a first step Israel must freeze its settlement policy in order to then negotiate other questions. [end recording]

Delegation Holds News Conference

LD2910165691 Madrid RNE-1 Radio Network
in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] The Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, which has been in Madrid since yesterday, has just given a news conference at which Palestinian leader Faysal al-Husayni called for the PLO to be incorporated into the Arab-Israeli talks in the subsequent phases of the Madrid peace conference. Here is a report from Antonio Alonso:

[Alonso] This was the first public appearance, but only of the Palestinian delegation, at the Crystal Pavilion, and it could not have been more tumultuous. The organization did not provide a press room, so on a staircase in the worst imaginable conditions, chairman of the Palestinian delegation Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi and advisers Hanan 'Ashrawi and Faysal al-Husayni issued a final communique in which they say that they have come to Madrid to negotiate seriously a just and lasting peace which satisfies everyone in the Near East:

[Begin recording of unidentified speaker in English with superimposed Spanish translation] We have come to Madrid in a positive spirit, determined to end the long ordeal of our people, to recover their rights and participate in a new era in our region in which the rights of all are respected. [end recording]

During the questions which followed the communique, Faysal al-Husayni, asked whether at the conference mention will be made of the PLO, confined himself to answering that the PLO is a reality without which you cannot understand what is happening in the Middle East.

Preview of Conference Speech

TA3010092991 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
30 Oct 91 p 3

[By Dan Avidan in Madrid]

[Excerpts] Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, chairman of the Palestinian representation to negotiate with Israel, will address the Madrid conference tomorrow and will refer to the PLO's status as the representative of the Palestinians and the Palestinians' aspiration for the establishment of their own state. Rashid al-Khalidi, a member of the Palestinian advisory council in Madrid, which will most likely help draft the speech, said yesterday that it will stress the Palestinians' desire to achieve peace with Israel. [passage omitted]

Rashid al-Khalidi told DAVAR that the supreme authority to decide on Palestinian and Jordanian positions during the negotiations will be 'Arafat and King Husayn, who will supervise the talks from Amman. The Palestinian delegates will conduct negotiations with Israel on all matters linked to setting up the interim stage in the territories. They will demand a clear linkage between the interim stage and the permanent settlement in the territories. They will also demand ownership of the land and water resources in the territories during the interim period, and not only autonomy for the inhabitants. There is a prior understanding between the Palestinians and the Americans on those issues. Al-Khalidi told DAVAR that the PLO decided on the composition of the Palestinian delegation to the talks, but that the residents of the territories also had a strong influence in this regard. [passage omitted]

Delegation Head on Shamir Remarks

JN2910214491 Amman Jordan Television Network
in English 2000 GMT 29 Oct 91

[By Murid Hammad in Madrid]

[Excerpts] The eyes of the world are already on the Spanish capital, Madrid, where the first such historic peace conference is going to be held tomorrow morning, Wednesday the 30th of October 1991. The preparations are under way, and all delegations are putting the final touches on what could be a peace making process here in the Spanish capital. [passage omitted]

Today, the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegations expressed their great reservations on a statement by the Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir who said that Israel has and for thousands of years a claim to the occupied territories, and that the Palestinians may have the same claim, so a solution must be found. Both delegations said there were hidden preconditions in the Israeli statement. [passage omitted]

[Begin Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi recording] In my opinion the claim of Israel and the claim of Shamir is unfounded. Historically we are the indigenous people of Palestine, and we are the people who can claim all the Palestinian

territory. However, for the sake of peace, we have agreed that we can accept the principle with the two-state solution as a compromise and as a basis for the sake of peace. I don't accept at all the claim of Shamir that the Palestinian territory is Israeli territory. Now, it is obvious that Shamir says this thing with ease because Israel is there by virtue of its military power, and not by anything else, not by legitimacy. In fact, they are there against United Nations resolutions. [end recording]

Egyptian Foreign Minister on Country's Goals

TA2910161191 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Report on interview with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa by Eldad Beck—live from Madrid]

[Text] I met Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa in the lobby of his hotel, the Ritz, where, incidentally, the Syrian foreign minister and the Gulf states delegation are staying. With me was a correspondent for DAVAR, and we asked Musa for his comment on yesterday's attack in the Tapuah junction. This is a means that will lead to nothing, Musa said, meaning the terror acts. To this I say: Give peace a chance. The conference must be given a chance and all such acts must stop.

I asked him whether the Egyptians are calling for the termination of the intifadah to allow the peace talks to succeed. He asked in response: What will Israel do in return? There is no free lunch, my friend.

He elaborated a little on the issue of the comprehensive peace and insisted that the parties must attain such an agreement; no separate agreements are possible. He noted that Egypt is establishing its peace strategy on four major principles: first, peace for territories; second, giving rights to the Palestinian people; third, ascertaining Israel's security, which is very important; and fourth, the construction of an atmosphere of confidence between the parties.

We asked him: What is he expecting from Prime Minister Shamir? Musa said: We believe that Shamir is a man capable of making decisions. He is a reasonable man. We have no objection to his heading the Israeli delegation, because it is up to the Israelis to decide. However, 'Amr Musa added, we would like to see David Levi heading the Israeli delegation because he is.... Here the Egyptian foreign minister reflected for a second and eventually said: Because David Levi is a foreign minister.

On Role in Talks, Arab Coordination

TA3010095991 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
30 Oct 91 p 4

[By Dan Avidan in Madrid]

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa told DAVAR yesterday that at the Madrid conference, Egypt will take steps to overcome difficulties that may crop up

during the negotiations between Israel and each of the Arab sides. Egypt will take such action because of its experience in conducting political negotiations with Israel and its good relations with all the Arab sides. It should be pointed out that Musa conferred yesterday with Prince Bandar bin Sultan, the Saudi representative to the talks, and a meeting to coordinate positions was to have taken place between all the Arabs.

Musa added that another Egyptian aim in the negotiations is to bring about regional arrangements to end the arms race and to share water resources and so forth, but on condition that a permanent solution of the Palestinian problem is achieved. Egypt will play a role in achieving arrangements on regional issues because it is the largest Arab country.

Musa claimed that the Madrid negotiations will not be substantive unless four conditions are met: They must be conducted on the basis of the formula territories for peace, must lead to the realization of Palestinians rights, must take into account Israel's security needs, and the negotiating sides must do all this of their own free will to reach a settlement.

He said the Arabs are coordinating among themselves prior to the negotiations, though this coordination is partial and not full; it is currently in high gear and will continue throughout the negotiations. Egypt will support the Syrian demand that it regain sovereignty over the Golan Heights and the Israeli demand for adequate security arrangements on the plateau.

In his view, the negotiations on the interim stage in the territories will not last long. The negotiations over the Golan Heights, on the other hand, will be longer. Musa therefore suggested setting a target date of one year for ending the conference. Afterward, the next move must be considered. He said that the Egyptian Government aspires to achieve a comprehensive settlement between Israel and all the Arab states and the Palestinians, but if one of the Arab sides decides it is ready to sign a separate accord with Israel, Egypt will support it.

Musa said that he would have liked to see Foreign Minister David Levi in Madrid, but the Egyptian Government respects Prime Minister Shamir's decision to head the Israeli delegation. The attacks in the territories in recent days will not contribute to a solution of the conflict, and the Madrid conference must be given a chance to achieve such a solution, he said. He rejected the possibility that the Palestinians will unilaterally declare an end to the uprising in the territories.

Shamir Tells Gonzalez Syria Disrupts Process

TA2910170191 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1525 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Report by political correspondent Arye Golan—live from Madrid]

[Text] We have the details of the conversation Prime Minister Shamir had with his host, Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, which has just ended. It was agreed that Gonzalez will visit Israel on 2 December. The contacts toward this visit started when Foreign Minister David Levi visited Spain at the end of July, and now it has been finalized: The Spanish prime minister will pay a three-day visit to Israel.

Mr. Shamir thanked his host for the hospitality of the Spanish Government and for his reception in Madrid. He told Gonzalez: We have to start on a long road and we will continue our efforts to attain peace. Mr. Shamir spoke about the hard feeling in Israel in recent days because of the severe violent acts that have taken place but, he said, we must hope to be able and manage to go on advancing in the peace process.

Gonzalez spoke about the 500 years [of the absence of Spanish ties with Israel and the Jews] that have left a residue around the world and in Spain. He said that the choice of Madrid as the venue for the opening session of the Middle East peace conference came as surprise to him and the Spanish people. They exchanged some remarks about the difficult traffic problems in Madrid, caused by the presence of many diplomats and some 6,000 reporters.

Prime Minister Shamir explained the importance for Israel of the quick transition of the negotiations to our region. Israel believes that the bilateral talks must be held in the Middle East, not in Madrid or anywhere else, and that they must take place soon after the opening ceremony, to which Mr. Shamir attributes a far lesser importance.

Gonzalez said he understands Israel's stand that it is preferable for the negotiations to be held in the Middle East, both in Israel and the Arab countries with which the negotiations are to be held. At the same time, the Spanish prime minister said: If you have to stay here, in Madrid, we will prepare as needed.

Shamir said that Syria is the element disrupting the multilateral process—the multilateral conference on the regional issues such as water, energy, and disarmament—which is to start two weeks after the this conference, and which has to lead to direct negotiations. Mr. Shamir explained to his Spanish counterpart why we attribute great importance to the multilateral discussions in particular. He noted that Jordan is reacting positively to the multilateral process, but the most difficult part, according to Shamir, will be the part dealing with the Palestinians.

Egypt's Musa Confers With Spanish Counterpart
NC2910155091 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1344 GMT
29 Oct 91

[Text] Madrid, 29 (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa today called on all parties to give the Middle East peace conference, which will open tomorrow in Madrid,

a chance, saying that the conference is an important opportunity that should not be lost.

Minister Musa said that inflexibility within the conference and acts of violence outside will lead nowhere and called on everyone to give negotiations a chance so that a peaceful settlement can be reached on the basis of the stated principles.

These statements came in a news conference Musa and Spanish Foreign Minister Fernandez-Ordonez held following their meeting in Madrid today. Minister Musa said that Egypt appreciates Spain's hosting the conference.

Musa said that he and his Spanish counterpart exchanged views on the upcoming conference and that he agreed to keep in touch with the Spanish minister during the conference.

Fernandez-Ordonez expressed his country's willingness to do anything to help the conference succeed, and he praised Egypt's role in preparing the conference. He noted that Egypt has strong ties with all the parties concerned.

Fernandez-Ordonez was asked if this conference differs from ones in which he has participated. He said: This conference has many participants and deals with many problems.

Madrid Conference Opens; Participants React

Gonzalez Opening Speech

LD3010104991 Madrid TVE Internacional Television
in Spanish 0932 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Speech by Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez opening the Middle East peace conference at the Royal Palace in Madrid—live]

[Text] Sirs, heads of states, delegates, ladies and gentlemen: In the name of the Spanish Government I want to join in the cordial greeting of welcome given to you by his majesty the king.

We have been given the honor and the responsibility of holding the Middle East peace conference in our country. We are continuing a long tradition by offering our home to be used as yours. Throughout history, Spain has known the fruits of coexistence, tolerance, and peace between the three cultures present here. The architecture in many parts of our country as well as the literature, poetry, philosophy, and science still in our libraries and rooted in our identity, were at one time the greatest agents of civilization and development in the known world. Mutual respect made this possible.

Spain also experienced the bitter results of confrontation. Al-Andalus and Sefarad remain as the permanent reminder of a happy place for many generations of men and women. Nostalgia has lasted until our times. If we have experienced the fruits of coexistence and the bitter

taste of division, how can we now not feel the hope of a way open to peace in this part of the world.

In recent years, our country has been immersed in a double process of internal and external openness. We have tried to emerge from isolation and have started to take on our responsibilities because of our history, geography, and the understanding that we live in our world which each day grows more interdependent. In this world, nothing can seem foreign to us, especially the destiny of a region so near as yours, one of the cultures which crossed Spain, contributing to the shaping of its personality.

We have often wondered if the conditions that once made coexistence fruitful might be repeated. Hope or frustration, peace or conflict spring from a positive or negative reply. But I hasten to say we foster hope and we do not want to renounce peace because of new conditions. Dizzying changes are taking place in the world, so much so that it is difficult to follow the speed of news brought to us while it is happening from the most diverse parts of the world. Here, we are seeing that new reality. Two men are cosponsoring this event, President Bush and President Gorbachev. Until recently, they headed two blocs opposed ideologically and militarily, and today they symbolize the search for international relations with fewer arms and more peace, with less confrontation and more cooperation, with less violence and more respect for individual and peoples' rights.

It is essential to remember the efforts of so many human beings who, for years, have worked for this dialogue which begins today. In recent months, within the framework of cooperation which has replaced confrontation, it is right to stress the concerted efforts of the U.S. secretary of state and the Soviet Union's foreign minister. Their ability and capacity have made possible what in our opinion is very remarkable: the start of this process.

The entire world is going to be waiting to see what is discussed here and the will that is shown. This is a hope that cannot be frustrated. We are aware of the complexity of the process but we, the Spanish people, know how cooperation between cultures and the unity of collected efforts can generate peaceful coexistence. Peace is the necessary condition. The region has natural resources and human capital which, in a climate replacing conflict with cooperation, can guarantee the development and well-being of all the people living there.

Delegates, on the eve of 1992, a year full of the commemoration of meeting and division, full of hope for everybody, we want, as Spaniards, to continue working with you to attain a stable peace based on justice, capable of being a lasting peace.

In receiving you in our home, I call on your generosity to build peace. For the sake of your friendship with Spain, I ask you to excuse the inevitable imperfections of an organization that has had to work against the clock. I can assure you that we have all worked with great hope,

encouraged by the spirit which you can hear on the streets, full of traffic difficulties. If peace can be reached, then everything will be worth it. We have done, and will do, everything that we can to facilitate the task.

Welcome to Madrid, welcome to Spain, both of which today have become, with your presence, the capital and country of the hope for peace.

Gorbachev Addresses Conference

LD3010104191 Moscow TASS in English 1031 GMT
30 Oct 91

["Gorbachev's Statement at Middle East Peace Conference"—TASS headline]

[Text] Madrid October 30 TASS—Follows the full text of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's speech at the opening ceremony of the Middle East peace conference here today:

Prime Minister Gonzalez,

President Bush,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to our hosts—the King of Spain and the Spanish Government for their offer of Madrid as the venue for this conference which is so important to the entire world. It would have been difficult to select a better venue from the standpoint of both the country prestige and authority and of geopolitics.

I welcome here the President of the United States of America, the Arab delegations and observers, the Israeli delegation, the representatives of the European Community, and the United Nations secretary general.

The composition of participants as well as the nature and objective of this conference are testimony that we are attending an event of major importance in new world politics.

The road to it was strewn with thousands of victims and with devastations and calamities suffered by the nations. It was marred by hatred and atrocities. It often came to crossroads fraught with a danger of global explosion.

This conflict, the longest in the latter half of the 20th century, bears a heavy mark of the cold war. It was not until an end was put to that war that ending this conflict became possible too.

Enormous efforts were needed, however, to put on track the process of settlement. Those efforts reflected the tremendous potential of good will and responsibility of the statesmen and policy-makers and of all those who became involved in this undertaking of global importance.

For we are dealing with a region from which originate many sources of the world's civilization and culture and

where the vital interests of today's international community converge, a region inhabited by nations whose genius inspire the greatest achievements of the human spirit.

Let me say a few words about the role of the two powers whose presidents are now before you as co-chairmen of the conference. It was the will of history that unless there had been an improvement and then a radical change in Soviet relations we would not have witnessed the profound qualitative transformations in the world that now make it possible to speak of an entirely new period, a period of peace in world history. Movement in that direction has begun.

The fact that a realistic hope has emerged for an Arab-Israeli settlement can only be understood in this context.

Cooperation between the two powers and other members of the UN Security Council was indispensable to stop the aggression against Kuwait and to reaffirm the effectiveness of the new criteria in international relations. Right after that, just as was agreed between President Bush and me early in September 1990 at our Helsinki meeting on the subject of the Gulf war, vigorous joint efforts began, aimed at achieving a Middle East settlement.

All that we and the Americans have done to that end signifies that proper conclusions have been drawn from the Gulf War. Our joint participation in the process of settlement was prompted by a desire to offer our good offices, not to impose solutions from outside that would run counter to the national interests of states in the region.

Thus, as a result of major bilateral and multilateral efforts a signal was sent to the parties involved in the conflict that they need to negotiate, to work together toward finding a realistic balance of interests which alone may form the foundation of a durable peace.

Today we have a unique chance. It would be unforgivable to miss this opportunity. Success is in everybody's interest not only because the rights of the peoples and nations and of individuals are increasingly recognized today as a universal foundation of the world order, but also for another reason of particular urgency and gravity. The Middle East has become one of the most heavily armed regions of the world, where lethal weapons and nuclear technologies are spreading and where other weapons of mass destruction are also present.

This is a justified cause for alarm. The international community is entitled to expect that this conference will come up with decisions that will put to rest this concern. In my view, the conference can only succeed if no one seeks a victory over the other side but all seek a common victory over the cruel past. I am speaking of peace, rather than a cessation of the state of war. A durable peace implies the realisation of and respect for the rights of the Palestinian people.

We have restored diplomatic relations with Israel. Now that profound democratic changes are taking place in our country and in the world and that a real process of settlement of the Middle East crisis is getting underway, the absence of such relations was becoming a nonsense. We hope and will try to make sure that this would benefit the peoples of our two countries, and the entire Arab world.

Peace in the Middle and Near East would benefit all. The region has a vast potential. Turned to constructive pursuits, it will help not only to resolve the problems of the nations that live there but will also become an important pillar of global international progress and prosperity.

We must break the fetters of the past and do away with animosity, militarism, terrorism, hostage-taking, and actions that turn people into refugees.

Our country, as a participant in the Middle East process and a neighbour that has maintained long-standing and extensive ties with the nations of the region, has a special interest in the success of this conference.

The pace and methods of resolving problems that have emerged at the present stage of world development will have a strong bearing on the settlement of conflicts in the Middle East and elsewhere.

The acceleration of historical evolution on the basis of democracy is amazing. Tremendous social energy of the masses of people is being released. Its characteristic manifestation is the dramatic growth of national self-awareness and national consolidation, particularly where national feelings were long ignored or suppressed.

It is a generally positive process that holds out great promise for the future. It will add to the creative potential of the world community in all its diversity. We now have a better chance of keeping this process on a civilised course. At the macro-level of world politics there is a recognition of the complex implications of national aspirations and the willingness to put out the fires of interethnic and international conflicts. We can witness that in the Middle East, Southern Africa, Cambodia, Korea, Afghanistan and Central America.

Yet dangers exist and we are already facing such dangers. Somewhat unexpectedly, they have made themselves strongly felt in Europe. But in the entirely new international environment there is a much lesser temptation for outsiders to exploit, say, the Yugoslav crisis in order to gain an advantage and strengthen one's hand at the others' expense. To the contrary, the dominating tendency is to exert joint and vigorous efforts to help overcome the crisis while respecting the right of the parties involved to decide the destinies of their country and, at the same time, reminding them of their responsibility to the international community. One may hope that crises that arise in our time will not be as protracted as the one we are dealing with here.

Lately the world has been confronted with yet another crisis of tremendous proportions. I have in mind my own country. It became inevitable as a result of accumulated latent contradictions. A great country is going through a great transformation. It is a painful and arduous process, which has brought about personal tragedies and interethnic and regional conflicts. A great deal in the world depends on how our crisis will be resolved.

Once this crisis is overcome, our union will acquire new qualities and potentialities of a world power based, materially, on a market economy as part of the world economy; politically, on democracy as part of universal democracy; and intellectually, on the new thinking.

We are the ones who will shoulder the main burden of achieving the recovery and prosperity of our country. This job is for us to do. Our peoples will have to go through a difficult period of transition. But it is important that in the new conditions created precisely because our country launched the initiative to end confrontation and join the rest of the world, the world, too, has not remained indifferent to our great cause.

The world community is becoming increasingly aware that what is happening in the Soviet Union has a larger bearing than any regional conflict on the vital interests of the greater part of today's world. Today we are not only hearing the voices of approval and good wishes—we are beginning to see practical support.

This is a very significant sign of the movement towards a new era. President Bush's initiative regarding nuclear arms and our reciprocal initiatives constitute a major step and a remarkable symbol of this movement. Nuclear arms used to be the axis of world politics over almost half a century. We can now change the nature of politics by removing that axle and replacing it with a completely new one that would fit the wheels of history in the 21st century.

Mankind faces many peacetime challenges and all of them are really formidable. They include what we call global problems, such as the environment, energy, food supplies, population, all problems of development and the complete abolition of the nuclear threat which is spreading to the periphery of the former center of world confrontation.

All these challenges can only be handled through joint efforts. Therefore it is essential to break the logic of many centuries and particularly of this century, to shape persistently and patiently a new logic of interdependence, interaction and cooperation. That this task is extremely difficult to accomplish we see both in our country and elsewhere. Even here in this conference room ghosts of the old thinking—sometimes unnoticed—are still roaming among us.

When we get rid of their presence, we will be better able to move towards a new world order. Irrespective of our individual visions of this order, it appears that we should now promote this objective process itself, relying on

relevant mechanisms of the United Nations, CSCE, European Communities, modernised old and completely new structures of regional security and cooperation as well as the institutions created for crisis prevention and conflict settlement.

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is for the delegations directly participating in the conference to sort out the details of its enormous task. As co-chairman of the conference we will be in regular contact with our American counterparts and will do our utmost to help find solutions for which your peoples and the entire world have long been yearning.

In my address I have mentioned the more general problems of the global process. I did this in order to emphasize once again the important international context of the conference and of the challenge that you are facing.

I wish you every success.

Netanyahu Welcomes Bush Speech

TA3010122891 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1045 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Interview with Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu by Rafi Reshef at the Palacio Real in Madrid—live]

[Excerpts] [Reshef] Good day to you, Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu. How do you sum up this morning's session?

[Netanyahu] I believe Israel certainly welcomes the basic message we heard in the remarks by Presidents Bush and Gorbachev. First, this message says that the goal is peace, including a peace treaty, and not just a state of nonbelligerency. Second, I think that President Bush particularly stressed that in referring to peace in the Middle East, one cannot talk about peace without security. This has always been our position, and it is pleasant to learn that this fact has been accepted, that we managed to convince others of its justness.

[Reshef] Did the term territorial compromise not trouble you?

[Netanyahu] I do not think there was anything new there. The emphases we have heard, in this morning's talk between the prime minister and President Bush as well.... [changes thought] This morning the President stressed, as he did in his opening speech and as did Gorbachev, that it is not they but we who will determine the terms of compromise and solution. This can come only from the inside, not from the outside.

[Reshef] With your permission, there is some contradiction between the claim that they will not determine things and the adoption of a position in favor of territorial compromise at the ceremonial opening session.

[Netanyahu] I do not think so. I would not say this was strongly emphasized during the speech. It was indeed said, but as the Americans' position. I believe the important thing is to draw a distinction between this international occasion and other peace conferences held in Europe this century. The principle that the decisions about the negotiations will be determined by the parties to the conflict and not by the parties that issued the invitations is very important. It is different from the principles of the Versailles or Munich conferences, for instance. It seems to me that it was important to state that the goal is true peace and a peace treaty, that peace is based on security, and that the mechanism to achieve this is through direct talks without outside conditions.

[Reshef] Because we were only able to watch the proceedings on television, we saw very little in terms of the contacts among the delegations. Could you describe the atmosphere inside the session hall?

[Netanyahu] At first, the atmosphere reminded me of the formal atmosphere at the United Nations. Still, one quickly gets a sense that the ice is breaking. I managed to talk with those who sat next to me: my colleagues from the Egyptian delegation. I also met with people who served at the United Nations with me or after my time there, such as the Egyptian foreign minister, with whom I had a long talk. In my opinion, this framework actually contributes to the ultimate goal of direct negotiations. I assume we will see manifestations of this in the future as well. You will probably get this impression from what you will be told by the other delegation members, too.

[Reshef] Aside from the Egyptians, did you manage to talk to members of the Syrian or Lebanese delegations, too?

[Netanyahu] The day is not yet over. Because we are seated around a big table which separates us, I could only bow and acknowledge some familiar faces bearing familiar names, and they returned my bow. So, this is an important start. [passage omitted]

[Reshef] Can you point to any improvement in the U.S. position? As you mentioned, the Americans talked about the need for territorial compromise, and you were among those who were not satisfied with the fact that they refused to undertake that the 1967 borders are not security borders, thereby perhaps indicating their desire to return us to those borders. Territorial compromise actually means that the United States should expect such a compromise on both sides.

[Netanyahu] I think you could hear this undertone, although it was not clearly pronounced. As you know, we are investing a considerable public relations effort here, to say the least. One of the things we are emphasizing is that we cannot talk in terms of a compromise whereby one side gives 100 percent and the other zero percent. I am not conducting the negotiations with you now, of course, but it seems to me that this line, which is clear, simple, and true, is sinking in....

[Reshef, interrupting] Is it sinking in at the White House, too?

[Netanyahu] Some things are definitely sinking in as far as the White House goes, too, and what is no less important, from the White House these things come back to the palace in Madrid.

[Reshef] Are you supposed to update the foreign minister back home?

[Netanyahu] There is a system here which updates him on an ongoing basis. I very much regret that the foreign minister is not here. As President Bush said, and correctly so, this process will probably last a long time, and I hope that in the future, according to his considerations and decision, the foreign minister will find the best way....

[Reshef, interrupting] With your permission, some are quietly hinting that if he were here, you would not.

[Netanyahu] You can entertain any interpretations you like. The important thing now to all of us, both in Israel and here, is the success of this process. I think that personal considerations are simply irrelevant. [passage omitted]

Ben-Aharon: Bush Speech 'Positive'

TA3010115491 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1040 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Interview with Yosi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's office, by political correspondent Arye Golan, in Madrid—live]

[Excerpts] [Golan] How does it look around the table? What happened with the Arab delegations? Did you shake hands with them?

[Ben-Aharon] First of all, it is a beautiful palace, a very impressive place, and very ceremonial. I believe that the organizers have tried to provide a festive atmosphere and give the feeling that it is a historic event. We waited for a long time for the hosts and the two Presidents to enter. The hosts wanted to provide a dramatic entry. After the Presidents entered, they went out again and returned to the hall with Spanish Prime Minister Gonzalez. [passage omitted]

[Golan] We are mainly interested in President Bush's speech. We heard the speeches live. The question is how you view the President's speech. We said in a commentary that the speech could be quite pleasing to Israeli ears. Did you hear the prime minister's reaction to the speech on your way from the hall to the hotel?

[Ben-Aharon] In the delegation we managed to exchange some words on the Bush and Gorbachev speeches. Bush, as he told the prime minister this morning, tried—and to a large extent succeeded—to create a balance and express a positive attitude about the process. He stressed the need for the parties to the conflict to sit with each other

to solve the problem, because no outside element can do it for them. It is also worth pointing out that he stressed that the aim this time is not an end to war, but real peace. We noted that. He referred to the Palestinians and mentioned the need to take their needs into consideration, but at the same time he referred to Israel's security requirements. I believe we Israelis can say that Bush's opening was positive; it tried to hand the baton to the disputing parties and to tell them that at a certain point responsibility falls on their shoulders. The outsiders—the organizers and prodders—can only help, but not more than that.

[Golan] You said it was a positive opening, that President Bush said what our delegation wanted to hear—the need for diplomatic relations, peace treaties, Israel's security—but at the same time, he also spoke about the need for a compromise.

[Ben-Aharon] He spoke about the need for a territorial compromise. We noted that he did not say territories in exchange for peace, but used the term territorial compromise. We know what the U.S. position is, and I believe it is perhaps obvious that he would mention territorial compromise.

[Golan] We can therefore say that the prime minister is generally satisfied with Bush's speech?

[Ben-Aharon] I did not ask the prime minister; I did not ask him to characterize it precisely. I believe the President tried to be as positive as possible without harming any of the sides and without stating too much of the known U.S. positions, parts of which are—as we all know—not too pleasing to our ears.

[Golan] Perhaps you can say a word about what we did not see in the direct broadcasts from the conference hall.

[Ben-Aharon] I will refer to that. The Israeli delegation was seated in the center, with the Lebanese delegation on its left and the Egyptian on its right. Some of the Egyptians, who have friends among us, talked to us and even managed to invite themselves to a meeting with the prime minister, which will take place today. They will be led by Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa. The Lebanese were reserved, and when one member of our delegation moved toward them, they got out of their seats and moved into the aisle on the other side of the room. Knesset Member Sara Doron decided to go further. She went up to the only woman in the Lebanese delegation, said a few words to her, and extended her hand. The Lebanese woman did not take it, but left. The Lebanese sat opposite the Syrians, and we assume that demonstrates their pitiful situation and that of Lebanon, which is under Syrian occupation. As far as I know, there was no contact with the Palestinians. We should note that loudmouth Sa'ib 'Urayqat wore a keffiyeh and sat all full of himself. On the other hand, others, including the cochairmen, gave the impression of being grown up and stable. They listened attentively to the speeches, and no special behavior was observed.

The Americans are trying to be as nice as possible. They encourage, smile, and move among the delegations.

[Golan] I believe they are the only ones smiling.

[Ben-Aharon] I would say that the Americans are trying. I would not say that the deadlock has completely been overcome and that there is already contact. No. The Arabs sit frozen, the Lebanese seem to be there against their will, and the Russians are busy with the own problems. Only the Americans try to be the good hosts, but we must recall that is the first session. We will see what happens later.

[Golan] Are any unofficial, behind-the-scenes contacts expected with the Americans or others during the break, before the conference resumes this afternoon?

[Ben-Aharon] I do not know about such contacts. We are in constant contact with the Americans. The prime minister discussed with the President what will happen later. The prime minister stressed that the bilateral dialogue must be conducted in the region and noted that in the past when there were such contacts in the region, they were fruitful.

[Golan] President Bush reminded him of Camp David, though, which is in the United States.

[Ben-Aharon] Yes, but the prime minister responded immediately by saying: I am also prepared for that. If there are already direct contacts and the beginning of an agreement, and it is only a matter of a signature, then there is no problem. We would also be prepared to do that.

[Golan] Do you believe that we will bring the direct bilateral negotiations back to the Middle East?

[Ben-Aharon] I can tell you that the prime minister is firmly entrenched in his position that there cannot be any real negotiations if they are not in the Middle East, in the region itself, with the peoples of Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and the Palestinians witnessing direct contact between their representatives and ours on this soil.

[Golan] But that is still only our position—not the American, and certainly not the Arab one.

[Ben-Aharon] No, the Americans support it; they are merely under strong Arab pressure, especially from the Syrians. We have reason to believe that it is only the Syrians—or more precisely, especially the Syrians—who are not prepared for any such contact in the region: God forbid, an Israeli be seen treading on Syrian soil or a Syrian stepping on Israeli soil.

[Golan] Just one more personal question. What did you think about when you entered the hall and saw the Syrians, Jordanians, and Palestinians?

[Ben-Aharon] I must admit it did not make me think that the walls are collapsing and we are beginning to talk. This is a gathering organized by an external element and

led by an outsider. Those who attended came because of the outside element rather than to reach a dialogue, at this stage at least. I will get excited if there is a direct dialogue exclusively between us and each of the Arab elements.

[Golan] Then you will be sitting opposite the Syrians.

[Ben-Aharon] I am prepared to sit opposite any Arab delegate if we have direct negotiations.

[Golan] But you have been appointed to sit opposite the Syrians.

[Ben-Aharon] The composition of the delegations to the bilateral negotiations has still not been settled.

[Golan] Are you preparing all sorts of contingencies for the direct talks with the Syrians if there is a situation in which they ask for everything and we do not give them anything?

[Ben-Aharon] There will be no situation in which we will not give them anything. We will give them a lot.

[Golan] I am referring to the Golan Heights.

[Ben-Aharon] If there is peace, territory is unimportant. We do not have to focus on that. If there is peace, it will be for the good of the Syrians and Israelis. That is the important thing.

[Golan] You have a short break.

[Ben-Aharon] Yes, we want to eat something and then return to represent with pride the State of Israel, whose citizens have their eyes pinned on this place. We want to continue to fulfill our duties with responsibility and pride, while looking after the State of Israel's rights.

Shoval: Speech Favored Israel

TA3010143191 Jerusalem Israel Television Network
in Hebrew 1359 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Interview with Zalman Shoval, Israeli ambassador to Washington, by political correspondent Gadi Sukenik at the Husa Princessa Hotel—live]

[Text] [Sukenik] Mr. Shoval, you are a member of the Israeli delegation. What was your impression from this morning's meeting?

[Shoval] First of all, I think it was very well organized. I think that President Bush's speech included some important statements as far as we are concerned: the firm emphasis he placed on the need for contractual peace agreements and on the establishment of full political and economical relations, tourism and the like; on the fact that the United States would not dictate solutions, or at least so he said; and on the fact that this process would be lengthy. They are aware of this, and so is Israel.

[Sukenik] It was a realistic speech.

[Shoval] I found it a realistic speech which was based on what I imagine were the parallel elements in the letters of assurances given to the various parties. However, the fact that he devoted part of his speech to the need for peace agreements and peace contracts, and not just in the general sense that the Syrians for example are....

[Sukenik, interrupting] Would you say that the speech favored Israel or that...

[Shoval, interrupting] The speech leaned toward Israel's positions on one or two points. The statements on both the issue of the multilateral negotiations and also on the issue of peace agreements reflected more on Israel's positions, but this was only the opening speech and I think we all understand that the main part will be the bilateral negotiations.

[Sukenik] The substantive issues will be discussed in the bilateral talks?

[Shoval] That is correct.

[Sukenik] Do you think that the United States will continue to pressure Israel more than the others or will they really play the honest broker now that we are actually sitting down to negotiate?

[Shoval] We hope that the United States will be an honest broker at the very least.

[Sukenik] And what is your estimate?

[Shoval, continuing previous thought] Because, as we see things, we as longtime allies deserve more than that. I think that the Americans realize that pressuring Israel will not work and may even lead to the opposite result. I do not think that they will adopt methods that could lead to the derailing of the entire process we all want so much.

[Sukenik] Thank you very much.

Shamir Aide on 'Encouraging' Speech

TA3010114791 Jerusalem Israel Television Network
in Hebrew 1120 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Interview with Yosi Ahime'ir, head of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's Bureau, by political correspondent Gadi Sukenik at the Husa Princessa Hotel in Madrid—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Sukenik] What were your and the prime minister's impressions of the opening speeches, of the positions presented by the U.S. President, who is the most prominent?

[Ahime'ir] It was an opening befitting such a conference. President Bush's speech was definitely a positive and encouraging speech. We heard him say things we had expected him to say: that the efforts made so far will certainly be pursued, that the negotiations must henceforth be conducted directly between the sides, and that the United States will certainly continue to help the sides to get closer and arrive at a mutually agreed solution.

[Suknik] If I read you correctly, your interim conclusion is that there is no room for any new or special concerns on the part of Israel.

[Ahime'ir] Well, the speech has yet to be analyzed and we must yet read the fine print. But it definitely denotes insistence on and support for Israel's position regarding the format of the future negotiations with each of the Arab countries and with the Palestinians. This is definitely the format we initiated and which we advocate.

Jordanian Spokesman Praises Speech

JN3010131691 Amman Radio Jordan Network
in Arabic 1227 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Following the peace conference opening session, Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir, spokesman for the Jordanian side of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, held a news conference. Dr. al-Mu'ashshir spoke to our correspondent in Madrid about that news conference.

[Begin recording] [Al-Sharif] If you please, can you give us a summary of the main points you discussed during your news conference?

[Al-Mu'ashshir] In the news conference, we stressed that we come to Madrid with a positive spirit and an open mind, and that we seek and call for a just and comprehensive peace for all states in the region, a peace that can be achieved after the Palestinians regain their rights and lands occupied by Israel in 1967.

[Al-Sharif] Dr. Marwan, briefly, how do you react to the speeches delivered in this morning's opening session?

[Al-Mu'ashshir] In fact, they were excellent speeches. President Bush's speech once again expressed that peace should not come without fairness, and that the Palestinians have legitimate rights which must be attained. He also stressed the principle of land for peace. Therefore, I think his speech was very positive and good, and expressed many of the things demanded by the Arab side.

[Al-Sharif] What were the most important meetings Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir, head of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, held over the past few hours?

[Al-Mu'ashshir] As you know, Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir yesterday met with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. This morning he—together with Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, and Samih Kan'an—met with President George Bush before the opening session of the conference.

[Al-Sharif] One last question: How do you view the atmosphere at the conference?

[Al-Mu'ashshir] There is a spirit of optimism prevailing among most quarters in the conference. Yesterday we heard an encouraging statement from Israeli Prime Minister Shamir regarding the Palestinians' right to land, followed, on the same night, by an announcement on the establishment of a new settlement [as heard]. Therefore,

at least on the Arab side, we feel there is a positive spirit and a determination to render success to the conference and spread peace in the region.

[Al-Sharif] Thank you, Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir. Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian side, also held a press conference few minutes ago. We will give the details at a later time. [end recording]

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Previews Madrid Conference

PM2910155091 Paris LE FIGARO in French
28 Oct 91 p 6

[Interview with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Thierry Desjardins in Tunis—date not given]

[Text] [Desjardins] What do you expect from the Madrid Conference?

['Arafat] That conference could lay the foundation stone for building a just and lasting peace in the region. I am not a dreamer. I know that there will still be many obstacles; that Shamir—Mr. "No"—will want to impose new conditions, establish new settlements, and try to halt the march toward peace; that Israel will perpetrate new crimes against our women, children, and populations in the occupied territories.

Despite all that, we are determined to make every effort to move toward peace, as we have done since 1988. Remember that we have already accepted the Egyptian 10-point peace plan, Baker's first five-point peace plan, the Bush and Gorbachev appeal, the Mitterrand and Gorbachev initiative, and now we are accepting this initiative by Bush. Our objective has always been peace in Palestine. We want peace.

[Desjardins] But are you prepared to unambiguously recognize Israel this time, without any evasion, stating it clearly?

['Arafat] In 1988, the PLO program was very clear: to make every effort to find a solution making it possible to create two states. That means a Palestinian state and an Israeli state.

[Desjardins] Behind you, there on the wall of your office, there is a big map of Palestine; however, there is only one state: Israel is not there....

['Arafat] Yes, until there is a peace agreement, there will be that map which disregards Israel. But the Israelis are still talking of a Greater Israel which goes from the Nile to the Euphrates. That is their map and they even have it on their coins and on that map Israel engulfs the whole of Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon, half of Syria, two thirds of Iraq, one third of Saudi Arabia, and half of Sinai.

We have long been asking for the borders of the two states—the borders between Israel and Palestine—to be defined. But Mrs. Golda Meir replied: Israel's borders

will be where Israeli soldiers stop, and Shamir's party is now saying that the two banks of the Jordan belong to Israel.

[Desjardins] Yes but now, on the eve of the Madrid Conference, are you prepared to recognize Israel within its 1967 borders?

[Arafat] We agree to sit down at the negotiating table to reach an agreement on everything—on the map, on security, on compensation (because UN Resolution 144 says: "The return of the Palestinians to their land or compensation"). We must be able to discuss everything, without preconditions, to reach an agreement on everything, as the Israelis reached agreement with the Egyptians at Camp David.

[Desjardins] But officially, the PLO is not at the Madrid Conference....

[Arafat] (Arafat bursts out laughing) [LE FIGARO editor's note] Every Palestinian is a PLO member, is the PLO itself. The PLO is not an ordinary organization; the PLO is Palestinian identity, and that is why every Palestinian, in the occupied territories or elsewhere, by definition represents the PLO. Moreover, it is strange that the PLO is not wanted in Madrid, but, at the same time, I am asked to ensure that the PLO guarantees the pledges made in Madrid; that is inconsistent.

Moreover, who took initiatives on the Palestinians' behalf in Washington, the USSR, at the Vatican, everywhere? Who if not the PLO? No, Shamir is trying to blot out the sun with his fingers. That is our problem: We are calling for peace, but there is no De Gaulle in Israel, there is not even a De Klerk, like Mandela has been fortunate to find in South Africa. Shamir is still saying no to the Palestinian people; it is all he is able to do. He does not even recognize the Palestinian people, he calls them "the inhabitants of the West Bank."

[Desjardins] Would you accept mere administrative autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza?

[Arafat] This conference is being held on the basis of Bush's initiatives. What is Bush saying? Land for peace, implementation of Resolutions 242 and 338 which make provision for the withdrawal of Israel from the occupied territories, including East Jerusalem, and recognition of the Palestinian people's rights in accordance with international law. I am not asking for the moon, I am asking for implementation of the UN resolutions and international law.

[Desjardins] Yes, but during a discussion you always have to make concessions.

[Arafat] France recognized Israel in accordance with UN Resolution 181 which talks of two states: One Palestinian and one Israeli. Today, 43 years later, you are asking me to accept mere autonomy. It only took a few days for three Baltic states to become independent. We have been waiting 43 years for our independence

which is nonetheless recognized by the UN texts. Where is the justice of the new world order?

[Desjardins] What status could a Palestinian entity have? Could it be a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation?

[Arafat] Since 1983, the Palestinians have constantly affirmed their agreement to such a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation freely determined by the two peoples.

[Desjardins] Most of the talk is about the occupied territories and it is possible to believe that a solution could be found on them, but that leaves the problem of the Palestinians of the diaspora who come from lands which formed the Israeli state.

[Arafat] The UN texts talk of the "right to return" or of "compensation." There are many Palestinians living all over the world and there is nothing to say that they will want to return. Similarly, there are many Lebanese living outside Lebanon, many Irish people living outside Ireland. But the Palestinians are the only people to have no land of their own in which they can be buried.

[Desjardins] That leaves the problem of Jerusalem. Are you prepared to give up Jerusalem?

[Arafat] No, never. That is a question of international law. Everyone, even the United States, recognizes that Jerusalem is part of the territories which were occupied in 1967 and which must be evacuated. Jerusalem is the capital of Palestine. Having said that, we recognize that Jerusalem is also of importance to the Jews. And we do not want to build a new Berlin Wall in the middle of Jerusalem. We must think about agreements on movement within a Jerusalem which would be open to all religions.

[Desjardins] If the West Bank was returned to you, what would you do with the Jewish settlements?

[Arafat] They are illegal. Like the settlements which existed in Sinai between 1967 and the Camp David agreements and which were dismantled. Having said that, I would like to remind you that there are two Jewish communities living among us, the Natouricartas and Sumerians of Nabulus, and they are an integral part of the Palestinian people.

[Desjardins] Will you declare a truce in the intifadah during the talks?

[Arafat] As soon as the occupation ends, the intifadah will automatically end.

[Desjardins] Do you not think that you made a major political mistake when you supported Saddam Husayn during the Gulf War?

[Arafat] Our popularity increased considerably among the Arab people and throughout the Third World because we adopted a principled stance: We were

opposed to war. In addition, have you forgotten all that I did to prevent that war, to try to secure the liberation of Kuwait and the release of the hostages, and that I succeeded in having them released?

[Desjardins] Are you not afraid that the conference will be limited to an Israeli-Syrian agreement on the Golan Heights and that the Palestinians will be forgotten?

[Arafat] No. Last week I succeeded in organizing a meeting of Israel's five neighbors: Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, and us. And that meeting made it possible to draw up a united plan.

[Desjardins] What could make this peace conference fail?

[Arafat] Israel's continuation of its crimes, the building of new settlements, this obstinacy in ignoring the Palestinian people's rights, in stating that there will never be a land for the Palestinians. In Strasbourg a few days ago, Shamir said: "I will never withdraw from the occupied territories." So why is he going to Madrid? Does he want me to legitimize the occupation?

[Desjardins] But are you now optimistic?

[Arafat] No, realistic. The new world order now wishes to establish stability in the Near East, and everyone knows that unless the Palestinians are granted their rights, there will be no stability. At Camp David, al-Sadat, Begin, and Carter forgot the Palestinians and said: There will never be another war in the Near East. How many wars have there been since then? No, as long as we are forgotten, there will be no peace or stability in our region. And everyone now knows that.

'Arafat on Peace Prospects

JN2910204891 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1935 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat identified by his nom de guerre Abu-'Ammar by Salah Salamah and Nabil Haydar; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Haydar] President Yasir 'Arafat, you recently met with all the leaders of the Arab countries bordering Israel, in addition to your meeting in Paris with the French and USSR foreign ministers. What results did these meetings produce with respect to the Palestinian stand that will be put forth at the peace conference?

[Arafat] The truth is that the Palestinian stand will not be the only one; however, the importance of these meetings, whether those held in Damascus, Amman, Cairo, or in Paris with President al-Hirawi, is that a unity of Arab ranks was manifested at these meetings which brought about, for the first time, this meeting of the countries bordering Israel at foreign ministers level. His Highness Prince Sa'ud [Al-Faysal] joined them on behalf of the Gulf countries, and [Abdellatif] Filali for the Maghreb countries to coordinate Arab stands and to

unite the Arab stand at the peace conference. This was very important. It would have been impermissible had we left for the conference divided, or with different opinions while facing the same enemy, the Zionist enemy, which occupies our Arab and Palestinian territories.

[Salamah] What tangible results emerged from these meetings?

[Arafat] We can proudly say that the Arab viewpoint is now united on the basic causes, particularly on the issues of Holy Jerusalem; the settlements and the need to halt them immediately; the Palestinian people's legitimate rights; and the need to terminate the Israeli occupation through this conference, the peace conference in Madrid, not to mention the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the Arab territories that were occupied in 1967, including Holy Jerusalem, the capital of the State of Palestine.

[Salamah] President 'Arafat, observers abroad are under the impression that the Palestinian negotiating delegation arrives in Madrid without being backed by a united Palestinian stand. There are parties in the Palestinian arena which oppose the selection of the members of the delegation from only the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip, while Jerusalem and the diaspora were excluded. They also object to the fact that no guarantees were received with respect to the right to self-determination.

[Arafat] I believe that such talk is not accurate. The Palestine National Council [PNC] adopted resolutions. The PLO Central Council also adopted another resolution. This all took place through our democracy, which we are proud of. Anything else is a deviation from democracy. If there are some who say something here and there, we respect what they say and as our constitution states, the majority respects the viewpoint of the minority and the latter abides by the viewpoint of the majority. This is the democracy of which we are proud and which has been the impregnable bastion throughout all the Palestinian stands, in all the Palestinian crises, and at all times.

[Haydar] Will these dissenting voices reflect on the national unity issue, which is vital and decisive at this particular stage?

[Arafat] [words indistinct] since what happened over the last few days was but a difference of opinion. True, some went too far in airing their views, but, in the Palestinian arena, where we have an overdose of democracy, we are used to hearing views here and there. Today and yesterday, nationalist Palestinian figures inside the occupied territory issued important calls for everybody to be bound by the nationalist line and national unity and urged that no one at all should spoil or compromise the national unity. Our national unity is sacrosanct, and under no circumstances should this or that party be allowed to dally with it. Thanks be to God, I would like to be frank: How much of the Palestinian population do

all Palestinian groups, beginning with Fatah and ending with Hamas, make up? Do they account for four percent of the Palestinian people? The Communist Party in the USSR did not make up four percent of the population in the days of Stalin. The vast majority of our people stand for national unity. I would like to say to some brother Palestinians, who abuse our liberal democratic practice [words indistinct] that they get nervous in other areas where they are present for the same stand and in the same direction. [sentence as heard] I ask: Why? Am I not entitled to ask why they get angry with the PLO, why they don't get angry in Amman, and why they don't get angry in Egypt, and why they don't get angry in Tripoli, and why they don't get angry in Damascus? So, they proceed from this Palestinian democratic practice that accommodates all these trends and all these opinions. I say to them: Welcome to this democracy, and that we safeguard our democracy and unity with more democratic practice. We are firm as a mountain.

[Haydar] Abu-'Ammar: The Palestinian delegation went to Madrid carrying the olive branch as you once did when you went to the United Nations years ago....

[Arafat, interrupting] Carrying with them the intifadah.

[Haydar] Carrying with them the intifadah.

[Arafat] The intifadah.

[Haydar] And yet, the Israeli noes were continuing? How did you deal with these noes during James Baker's tours, and did you manage to totally break these noes?

[Arafat] I want to tell you something. I want to tell you many things. Hours before the conference, however, nobody reveals all his cards. Do you want me to reveal all my cards? Nobody plays with exposed cards. I want to tell you something, however. We are proceeding with confident strides. I say this because it suffices to note one thing. Since 1917, they wanted to scrap the Palestinian representative, the Palestinian factor, and the Palestinian people. Golda Me'ir was once asked: Since there are Palestinian people, where are the Palestinians? She answered: I am the Palestinian, nobody else [words indistinct]. At the Basel Conference in 1897, it was said: A land without people for people without land. We say it now: These are the people, the owners of this land. Here they are standing with their Arab brethren on an equal footing facing the Israeli delegation. They, like the Israeli delegation, have 45 minutes to speak. Every Palestinian there now represents the PLO. This is because every Palestinian inside and outside the occupied territories, in accordance with our constitution, is a PLO member.

Praise be to God, we do not have a problem like the one suffered by Israel, which is that Shamir cannot trust his foreign minister. The reason is simple. [words indistinct] racial discrimination, because his foreign minister, unluckily for them, or maybe luckily for them, God knows, you see, is a Moroccan from the Siphardim. As for us, every Palestinian, nay, every Arab at this conference represents the PLO. We trust them totally.

[Haydar] In brief, it can be said that the essential Palestinian factor in the Middle East peace equation is there at the Madrid Conference?

[Arafat] At the negotiating table. Since 1897, they have been trying to scrap the Palestinian factor. When some Palestinians, under the mandate, Nabil, used to go to meet with the colonies minister—this is noted down in Churchill's memoirs—he used to tell them: I meet you in your capacity as the representatives of the Palestinians. I meet with you in my personal capacity. This was reiterated to more than one Palestinian official. Even the Palestinian officials who had good relations with the British Government, such as Musa al-'Alami, for example, they used to deal with him as a representative of the Palestinian people. Now, the representatives of the Palestinians are there at the same table at which the entire world is sitting. The cochairman, [preceding word in English] the Soviet Union, and America, Europe, the United Nations, although it is a silent member, and parties to the conflict to the region are there; Palestinians, Arabs, and Israelis at the same level and efficiency. We have total confidence in those who are standing on behalf of Palestine.

[Haydar] Brother Abu-'Ammar, you along with most Palestinian forces emphasize escalating the intifadah to support the Palestinian negotiators in the peace conference. There are some voices, however, that call for stopping some aspects of violence in the intifadah.

[Arafat] I would like to continue.

[Haydar] Yes.

[Arafat] I understand that Israel is afraid of the Palestinian side at the negotiations table. I also understand the confusion in the Israeli ministry or the Israeli extremist parties. I understand this; however, I do not believe there is any other party in the region other than Israel that is afraid of the presence of the Palestinian side.

With regard to the intifadah, the intifadah will continue one wave after another. It will escalate through all means until the Palestinian flag is hoisted over the walls of Jerusalem, the minarets of Jerusalem, and the churches of Jerusalem. They see the day indeed as a far-off event: But we see it quite near. We tell the truth. And to enter your temple as they had entered it before, and to visit with destruction all that fell into their power. [Koranic verses].

God willing, you have an open invitation to pray together. The delegation, before leaving for Madrid, went to the al-Aqsa Mosque and prayed, then went to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and prayed. God willing, when we go back to Jerusalem, we will pray together in the al-Aqsa Mosque, and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

[Haydar] God willing.

[Arafat] God willing.

[Haydar] At this time when the representatives of the Palestinian people are in Madrid, what would you like to tell the Palestinian people and the Arab masses?

[Arafat] I call on our Arab masses, I call on our Arab nation to back the Palestinian negotiator and the Arab negotiator who sits before the most vicious enemy with his sick dreams of establishing Greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates. World War I ended with Sykes-Picot, and World War II ended with Yalta. After the cold war and hot World War III, which has ended and we must understand this, for the first time we are present in the conference that follows World War III. We are present as Palestinians and as Arabs in a crucial conference which discusses the future of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation. Therefore, the Palestinian people must back their delegation as one. We must respect each other and each other's opinions. According to Voltaire, I could disagree in opinion with you, yet I am ready to defend your freedom of opinion. Eventually, the position must serve the higher pan-Arab and national interest. Therefore, we must rise above our organizations for the sake of Palestine, for the sake of Jerusalem, for the sake of the first two kiblas and the third of the holy mosques, the place from which Prophet Muhammad ascended to heaven, and the cradle of Jesus Christ.

[Haydar] Thank you Brother Abu-'Ammar.

Al-Husayni, al-Khatib View Peace Talks

JN2910090391 Amman Jordan Television Network
in Arabic 1940 GMT 28 Oct 91

[Interview with Faysal al-Husayni, identified as the head of the Palestinian team to the peace conference, and Ghassan al-Khatib, member of the Palestinian side of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, by Muhammad Dawudiyah in Amman; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Dawudiyah] You are invited to speak via this national and pan-Arab channel with the necessary frankness that will be sufficient to construct rather than destroy. You are welcome.

Can you tell us about the degree of Jordanian-Palestinian coordination and understanding, and also about your contacts in Cairo and Damascus? What results have you been able to reach?

[Al-Husayni] Work on Jordanian-Palestinian coordination has been ongoing for some time. It has been political coordination of the highest level and culminated in the peace conference itself. We are going there as part of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian, or Jordanian-Palestinian delegation; there is no difference between the two terms; the official term, however, is the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. There will be complete equality at the conference and we will be equal to all other delegations; in terms of the time given to every side to speak, we will have the same as the Jordanian, Syrian, and Egyptian delegations. We will be on the same level,

on the same footing. Moreover, there is coordination on the issue of expertise and experts. This is where the role of Egypt comes into play. The Egyptians are prepared to extend to us their negotiating experience. You are aware that they had a long, bitter negotiating experience with the Israelis.

[Dawudiyah] Ghassan, would you like to comment on the latest results you have realized?

[Al-Khatib] With regard to Palestinian-Jordanian coordination, the level reached so far has been very satisfactory. The agreements we have seen in Jordan between the Palestinian and Jordanian sides provide both relief and satisfaction. Now we feel that there is genuine support from the Jordanian side, in addition to support, to various degrees, from numerous Arab states. This is a very important issue for us because, in these negotiations, we rely on numerous resources, such as Arab support and backing, of which we are in dire need at this time, in addition to other aspects such as our people's understanding and the continuation of their steadfastness and intifadah.

[Dawudiyah] Are you going to this conference with bargaining chips? Is the intifadah a bargaining chip? Do the legitimate international resolutions represent a bargaining chip? Or are you going to face the Israelis, leaving the resolution of issues up to skill, cleverness, and the various factors of power?

[Al-Husayni] First, I would like to say that the political equation, or the rules of the international political game, have changed. We now live in accordance with new rules that are completely different from the previous ones. In the past, there were two powers possessing nuclear deterrents. Accordingly, in the struggle between the small powers what mattered was how much each of these small powers possessed in terms of military, political, or other factors of power. Now we live in a new situation. There is only one superpower, the United States, and our strength is not measured by how much I possess and how much Israel possesses. The comparison is between my strength and U.S. strength on the one hand, and between Israel's strength and that of the United States on the other. In this equation, we are almost close. Israel's strength to face the United States politically, militarily, or economically is very small, and Israel cannot use it in this particular confrontation. Our position is also close to the Israeli position. Therefore, we are equal in facing the new international order.

What is important to know is what this new world order needs. We are aware that this order requires stability in this region, and we are perfectly aware that without the Palestinians there will be no stability in the region. During my talks with the Americans and through coordination with other states in the region, we have proven this point to the Americans. Therefore, the Palestinians are now addressed as a basic and primary element in this equation.

[Dawudiyah] They have been unable to eliminate the Palestinian element.

[Al-Husayni] They have been unable to eliminate the Palestinian element. Right now, we are going to sit at the negotiating table. As for the framework that will govern our work there, it will consist of Resolutions 242 and 338; a framework that is based, first and foremost, on the United Nations. Consequently, international legitimacy will be the prime criterion governing the work of this conference. On the other hand, U.S. interests would be served by regional stability, something which we also can affect. Hence, we believe that our position and ability at the negotiating table are high. Of course, this ability is reinforced by the domestic Palestinian front, and our steadfastness on the ground as well. Through these two things, we can achieve victory, God willing.

[Dawudiyah] Not to mention the fact noted by Mr. Ghassan, to the effect that Arab support serves to further bolster these abilities, as you both have already explained. Mr. Ghassan: Negotiations and settlement building cannot go together. Likewise, settlement building and negotiations are irreconcilable. Will settlement building be halted, as you believe? Will the Palestinian delegation, or for that matter, all Arab delegations set the condition that settlements be completely halted for the duration of negotiations?

[Al-Khatib] If negotiations are to be conducted on the basis of UN Resolutions 242 and 338, which are based on the principle of trading land for peace, then the Israeli side is obliged not to make any changes in the territories, which are to be traded for peace and on which a solution is to be attained, before an end to these negotiations is envisaged. Consequently, I believe that our argument will be very strong with regard to settlement building, thanks to legal considerations and also because settlement building contradicts with this very Security Council resolution. The other important point is that all states of the world will unmistakably and categorically voice the unanimous opinion that settlement building is an obstacle to peace. Hence, the fact that Israel, the Palestinians, and other Arab states will be attending the peace conference, and that they will be the focus of global public attention, which in itself is hostile to settlement building, will make it very difficult and embarrassing for Israel to maintain its settlement policy. Therefore, we expect Israel to halt settlement building as the negotiations begin. Moreover, we expect the world to act to achieve this. I believe that this issue is one of the topics which will hopefully be achieved. Of course, there are no guarantees of this; however, it tops our agenda and, as far as we are concerned, it is viewed as a top priority. There is no other topic which is more important for us.

[Al-Husayni] Undoubtedly, a halt to settlement building would be an indicator that could be viewed, if initiated, as a sign of goodwill. Hence, it would be a step taken in the direction of peace. Such a step would be met with another step in the direction of peace by us.

[Dawudiyah] Sir, in negotiations, as a rule, concessions are made. Otherwise, if each party sticks to its firm principles, heads to negotiations and fails to make concessions, the parties will fail to reach any agreements. Israel declares that it has its firm principles. These are that Palestinian territory is liberated Israeli territory, that Israel will not withdraw from this territory, and that its objective is to achieve peace in return for peace, not to mention other similar terms and principles propagated by the Zionist media. As for the Palestinian people and the Arab nation as a whole, they are speaking of firm principles. They have their own pan-Arab and national principles. This being the case, who is going to make concessions? While demanding that Israel abandon some or all of its declared firm principles, cannot we fear that we might be asked to give up some or all of our own firm principles? Is not there a fear that we could forfeit rights? As a matter of fact, you have a rich heritage of struggle over 80 or 90 years in which martyrs have fallen. What are your guarantees that the firmly established principles will not be relinquished?

[Al-Husayni] As a matter of fact, these negotiations will, in the first place, be conducted within the context of international legitimacy. All of our firm Palestinian principles fall within the framework of international legitimacy. That is why Israel attempted by all means to evade participation in this conference. Ultimately, Israel is fully aware that it cannot obtain more than that which can be provided to it by international legitimacy. This means that much of their insistence on certain things outside international legitimacy will not be provided to them.

Basically, we made a concession to international legitimacy, now it is Israel's turn to make a concession.

[Dawudiyah] You made the necessary concessions?

[Al-Husayni] Yes, we offered the required concession to the international legitimacy, and now Israel should also offer this concession.

[Dawudiyah] Thank you Mr. Faysal. Mr. Ghassan, if you would like to comment.

[Al-Khatib] In fact, negotiations do not necessarily mean mutual concessions in an absolute sense. Negotiations are a process aimed at finding a solution. Therefore, the basic question is: What is the basis of a solution? If the basis of the proposed and agreed solution is close to the stand of one side, then this side is not required to offer many concessions, and vice versa. The basic and internationally agreed-upon principle is the implementation of UN resolutions, which are very similar to the Palestinian position. Therefore, the side that proposes a stand which contradicts with international legitimacy and opposes the other states of the world must change its position and fall in line with everybody else.

I am perfectly aware that this does not go along with the Israelis' attitude toward the peace process. I believe that this conference might be the last opportunity for Israel.

Either Israel joins the march of civilization and the new world order, or it remains a discordant element which will place it in very difficult circumstances in the future. In my opinion, changes will take place in Israel, either in terms of changes in the government structure or in the present government's position, because I cannot imagine that this government will continue to insist on positions that are in opposition to the entire world.

[Dawudiyah] It is said that you will be going to negotiate on interpreting and not implementing UN Security Council resolutions. This is one of the arguments this is upheld and played up by those who oppose a settlement. Is this possible? If the negotiations do not end up with what you want, as a Palestinian and Arab national, will you be able to refuse to sign it?

[Al-Husayni] First, it is clear that only the Israeli side has a strange interpretation of Resolution 242. The other sides, even the Americans, interpret this resolution in a manner that is more in line with our own interpretation. The Israeli theory that Resolution 242 means withdrawal from territories and that they have already withdrawn from them, is countered by another opinion, namely, that the resolution calls for a withdrawal from all fronts. Therefore, there is a global stand against Israel and it will not be able to wage the battle of interpretation to its advantage. Second, in accordance with international rules, you can go to the negotiations, you can discuss, put up an agenda, and draw up concepts and agreements, but when the time comes for signing, you may sign or you may not sign. Therefore, we will not be committed in any form whatsoever to sign any documents that may infringe upon our rights and their essence.

[Dawudiyah] Mr. Faysal, how do you view those who oppose you, those who reject your beliefs? How do they view you?

[Al-Husayni] I am convinced that it is impossible for the Palestinian people, who are expecting and are going to live in a Palestinian state, to have the same opinion, the same ideas and stands. Perhaps it will be a disaster if they do so. Democracy means multiple opinions, interpretations, and constructive criticism. I can say that I am proud, my brothers are also proud. We are proud that our people have an opposition which behaves in a sound manner. A demonstration was staged outside my house. I talked to them and was able to reach an understanding with them in an open manner. The point is that we aim to realize one thing; namely, liberating our homeland, our independence, and our right to self-determination. There are various interpretations. We talked and they made their points clear in a free, democratic manner, indicating that this Palestinian land in the future will be state of genuine freedom and democracy; a state of sound and correct opinion. I believe that it is clear to our brothers who oppose us that the differences are in methods only, and not in principles.

[Dawudiyah] What is the alternative for the region if peace fails to be achieved?

[Al-Husayni] As a matter of fact, the alternative for the region if peace fails to be achieved is for us to enter into a phase of instability. The lack of stability will regrettably be detrimental to all parties. If some Israelis think that instability will affect others and leave them alone, then they are sorely mistaken. They will be the first people affected by instability. We are attempting by all means to make the Israelis understand that the zero equation, which stipulates that what is advantageous to me will be harmful to you, and that what is advantageous to you would harm me, is no longer valid. We are endeavoring to create a new community, a new order in the Middle East, a new regional area of cooperation that would give all Middle Eastern peoples the opportunity to enter the 21st century in a new manner. The future can no longer have room for small entities. Europe, regardless of its progress and immensity, was compelled to form the EC so that it can confront the economic giants in the world. Similarly, our region has to face this dilemma and to build a new order. Hence, Israel here has to choose to be either a marginal entity abandoned in the Middle East and disregarded in Europe, or to be part of this region and part of the Middle East. Only then, can it enter the 21st century, as we would enter it, in a good and orderly manner.

[Dawudiyah] Thank you, Mr. Faysal. Mr. Ghassan, what do you have to say on this?

[Al-Khatib] I believe that it is important here to note that this eventuality is realistic rather than imaginary. There are numerous indicators showing that this conference is not necessarily going to end its meetings successfully. The following are some of these indicators: The conference is going to convene while some of the basic difficulties have remained unresolved, the U.S. side has focused on procedural preparations and aspects and delayed the tackling of substantive issues, the Israelis are currently very intransigent, as well as the political makeup inside Israel. There is a large host of considerations which prompt us to believe that the chances for the success of the conference are not necessarily the strongest. Hence, we must, as a matter of fact, be prepared for all eventualities. The failure to achieve any successes at this conference would mean that the Palestine question will remain unresolved. This will also mean that the door in the Middle East region will remain open for more wars. Over the past 40 years, a number of wars have occurred in the Middle East. There has been a war every seven years, on average. The failure to resolve the Palestine question fairly will perpetuate the status quo, with the added difference that modern wars are different from old wars. The Gulf war can testify to this.

[Dawudiyah] Sir, we have recently heard a statement to the effect that there will be no peace as long as there is no withdrawal, and that there will be no peace without Jerusalem. Do you agree that there is a connection between peace and withdrawal?

[Al-Husayni] Yes, of course. There can be no peace without withdrawal. Similarly, there can be no peace

with Jerusalem. This is because we are heading to the conference to build a new order, a new shape for this region, a kind of new relations. In these new relations, we will not accept to see a dominator and a dominated party. The relations must be equitable and fair so that we can achieve this objective, which we have proposed from the outset—the one regarding the initiation of regional cooperation in this part of the world. The key to this cooperation is the restoration of the Palestinian people's rights. Only when the Palestinian people are granted their rights in full can we talk of the possibilities of cooperation in the entire region.

[Dawudiyah] Well, Mr. Ghassan, do you want to add to this, or may I pose questions on other issues?

[Al-Khatib] Go ahead, ask whatever question you have.

[Dawudiyah] How did you, as an individual, manage to cross over the psychological barrier as far as negotiations with the Israelis are concerned? Over the past 40 years, this barrier has been there. It is not easy to cross this barrier.

[Al-Khatib] As a matter of fact, we should remember that we have been living under occupation over the past 24 years. Whether we like it or not, we have been dealing with the occupation authorities in various ways and forms, whether this occurs at detention centers and during interrogations or through the relations we are maintaining with some Israeli peace forces, with which we are forging ties of cooperation. By the way, we hope that these forces will redouble their efforts for the duration of the conference.

In fact, I did not feel there was a barrier that rendered it difficult for me to sit down with an Israeli. I have always believed that since I have a just cause and since I am convinced of the soundness and strength of my position, I shall be ready to sit with anybody and talk about this issue anywhere. I shall do so as long as I am convinced that my position is legitimate, rightful, and based on the support of our people, both outside and inside the occupied territories. Any Palestinian consensus on a question will provide us with great power. Accordingly, all my brothers and I are always ready to go anywhere and talk to anybody, as long as the topic of discussion is based on my conviction that is linked to, and based on, the official Palestinian stance as adopted by our legitimate PLO institutions.

[Al-Husayni] In fact, our fight and struggle is in defense of our rights and is an expression of love for our land and the sons of our people, and not hatred for others. Hence, for the sake of this love and in defense of this right, we fought in the streets and by all possible means. Also, in defense of this right and out of our love for our people and land, we are ready to sit at the negotiating table, even with the ones we fought against.

[Dawudiyah] Our time is up; however, you may make a brief closing remark.

[Al-Husayni] We would like to take this opportunity to address our steadfast people who are struggling against the ongoing Israeli repression. We tell them we are going to a battle, and we will rely primarily on their steadfastness and the sacrifices they have made and continue to make, as well as their unity and these feelings and huge capabilities as demonstrated by our sons and the mothers of our martyrs. We promise them all that we will not surrender any right nor miss the opportunity to regain our rights.

[Dawudiyah] Thank you. Mr. Ghassan, would you like to speak?

[Al-Khatib] Thank you.

[Dawudiyah] Brother viewers, at the end of this special interview, and on your behalf, I thank both our brothers and guests, Mr. Faysal al-Husayni and Mr. Ghassan al-Khatib. You have heard them speak warmly and directly from their hearts. We wish them success in their mission represented in maintaining the constants of the Palestinian people. Good night and goodbye. Thank you.

Paris Radio Interviews Abu-Sharif

LD2910223991 Paris France-Inter Radio Network
in French 1815 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Radio phone-in program with Bassam Abu-Sharif, adviser to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, correspondent Alain Menargues, correspondent Mireille Lemaesquier, correspondent Pierre Veil, and unidentified announcer; Abu-Sharif from Tunis, Menargues and Lemaesquier from Madrid, and announcer in Paris studio—live]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Announcer] Bassam Abu-Sharif, this listener also asks, if I can summarize the second point of his question, if the Palestinians again will be the big losers, in other words, isn't there the risk that this conference ends with a sort of entente—even partially—between the Israelis and some of its Arab neighbors and the Palestinians once again being forgotten. What is your feeling on this?

[Abu-Sharif] No I don't think so. This time it is different. Because President Bush knows very well that the settlement of the conflict in the Middle East should have as its main point the settlement of the Palestinian problem. It was Begin who said after he signed the Camp David agreement that wars were over in the Middle East. But we have had several wars since Camp David, (the 422), the Gulf War, etc. The settlement of the Palestinian problem, that is to give the Palestinian people its legitimate rights to self-determination and national independence, will settle the conflict and at the same time stabilize the Middle East.

[Announcer] Alain Menargues would like to say something. Alain?

[Menargues] Yes, it is true in towns like Damascus. For instance, in Syria we know that the Syrians have been

opponents of Yasir 'Arafat for a long time, and there are Palestinian organizations such as Hawatimah's DFLP [Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine] or George Habash's PFLP [Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine] who condemn the peace conference and who call for armed struggle. Well, Bassam Abu-Sharif, even within the PLO there is a political opposition—I am not speaking of military opposition or attacks, I talk about this political opposition. Isn't it embarrassing for you to see the Palestinian National Council, that is the Palestinian parliament, divided?

[Abu-Sharif] Listen Alain, it is true, there are extremists who reject completely the peace process, but this is normal; it is democracy. I respect their point of view, but one should know that the Palestinian parliament has made this very clear decision and the majority, 80 percent of the representatives of the Palestinian people, voted in favor of the participation of the Palestinians in the peace process. It is democracy. But one should also see that in the other side, the majority has so far rejected completely international legitimacy, like Shamir and his government. But we should not leave things as they are. We should start the peace process. We should convince people that it is peace and only peace and not war that can serve the interests of generations in the Middle East.

[Announcer] In Madrid, I think that our two special envoys, Mireille Lemaesquier and Pierre Veil would like to intervene. Are you there?

[Veil] Yes, I would like to ask a question of Bassam Abu-Sharif. You are asking for your right for self-determination and the creation of a Palestinian state. Do you think that the famous autonomy proposed to you by the Israelis could be a first step toward this self-determination and the creation of a Palestinian state?

[Abu-Sharif] We are not romantics. We are realistic people. The convening of the peace conference is the first step in a path which will be long and difficult and perhaps with obstacles. But we should start the process. As far as we are concerned, Mr. Baker said that after one year the Palestinians will have an autonomous government. We accepted this as a transition period and we will continue the negotiations because we are serious people and we will work hard to establish peace. The Palestinian people, like other peoples, has the right to enjoy national independence. But we also declared in our parliament that we will establish a confederation between the Palestinian state and Jordan and we are also ready to establish normal relations with Israel because Israel cannot live in the Middle East without having the Palestinian state as a bridge to the other Arab states. No Arab country can establish normal relations with Israel without the Palestinians. We, the Palestinians, the Palestinian state, are the bridge. Israel should know this.

[Announcer] Many listeners intervene through Minitel [computer] to ask you about your position on Jerusalem. I have Claude's question here, he says: Even if agreement

is reached about everything else, which is not certain, how will the problem of Jerusalem will be resolved?

[Abu-Sharif] Well, I would like to say to your listeners that we cannot resolve all the problems at once. We should tackle each problem step by step and we are serious. We will start the peace conference with a serious determination to establish peace with the Israelis. East Jerusalem is occupied. This is not just our opinion, but the opinion of the international community, and it is the truth because in 1967 Israel occupied East Jerusalem. I come from East Jerusalem. I have my house there. [passage omitted]

We say frankly to the Israelis that the final status of Jerusalem will be discussed at the peace conference. One cannot say that Jerusalem is Jewish, because Jerusalem is a holy city, not only for the Jews but also for the Christians and the Muslims. Jerusalem should have a special status. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] Mireille Lemaesquier in Madrid, I think would like to ask a question.

[Lemaesquier] Yes, I would like to ask a question of Bassam Abu-Sharif. Hello, Bassam Abu-Sharif. Tell me: Mr. Faysal al-Husayni, who leads the Palestinian commission [as heard] in Madrid, said this afternoon that the PLO will ask to participate in this conference in a later phase. What does this mean? Second question: Can we expect Mr. Yasir 'Arafat in Madrid these days?

[Abu-Sharif, laughing] President Yasir 'Arafat is a statesman. He is the president of the Palestinian state. We respect diplomatic agreements. President Yasir 'Arafat will follow the developments from Tunis. But as you all clearly know, the PLO has designated the Palestinian delegation, because every Palestinian identifies himself with the PLO. The PLO is a national identity. The PLO is neither an office nor a refugee camp! The PLO is the national identity of the Palestinians. Every Palestinian who will be seated there in front of the Israelis or with the Americans or with the Arab brothers represents the Palestinian people. [passage omitted]

PLO To Form 'Working Committees' in Territories

LD2910194691 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio
Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] The PLO official spokesman has said that the Palestinian leadership decided, during its open meetings in Tunisia, to set up political working committees inside the occupied homeland to follow up the various aspects of the Madrid conference, secure all the requirements for the success of the negotiating Palestinian delegation, and support it in the face of the challenges confronting it.

The Palestinian News Agency [WAFA] reported, citing the Palestinian official spokesman, that intensive consultations are being conducted with all the Palestinian struggle groups inside the homeland before announcing these formations.

Groups Call For Strikes, Protests Against Talks

*NC3010073691 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 30 Oct 91*

[Text] The leadership of the Palestinian Liberation Front—Lebanon Branch has called on the Palestinian and Arab masses to turn the day the Madrid conference opens into one of anger. To demonstrate, stage sit-ins, and to raise a black banner to protest, denounce, and firmly reject the attempts to liquidate the national Palestinian issue.

The leadership of the Lebanon branch of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine has called on Palestinians in Lebanon to respond to the appeal to declare a general strike today to protest the convocation

of the Madrid conference in violation of the Palestine National Council resolutions and to express the unity of Palestinians inside and outside the occupied territories in confronting the attempts to negate our people's rights, over which there can be no concessions.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine said in a statement: Let 30 October be a day of unity among the people and a heroic day in confronting the occupation. Let it be a day of anger, a rejuvenation of the revolution, and a day of protests and struggle to protest the PLO's bypassing of the Palestinian people's rights, cause, and fate. The statement added: The resistance option will remain our option. Our option will remain the valiant uprising for the sake of freedom and independence.

Shamir Letter Outlines New and Old Positions

TA3010062991 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
0505 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Report by Yo'el Nir]

[Text] The letter Prime Minister Shamir sent to James Baker around 30 hours ago looks a bit outdated now—especially the dispute over the equal time allotted to the head of the Palestinian team or the two-headed Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, which accords the Palestinians the status of a delegation. Nevertheless, according to Jerusalem sources, the letter points to some of Israel's red lines. It reiterates not only perennial stands, but also some new ones.

The old stands: The prime minister reiterated that East Jerusalem under no circumstances is up for negotiations; therefore, no Arab resident of East Jerusalem will participate in the talks on the permanent status of the territories. The prime minister reiterated the Israeli stand on the PLO, despite the remarks by Sa'ib 'Urayqat, a member of the Palestinian delegation, that the PLO appointed him. Mr. Shamir wrote that the PLO will not participate in the process and that anybody authorized to speak in its name, or anyone claiming to be authorized by it, will be disqualified.

There also are two [as heard] new points: A Jordanian-Palestinian confederation is the same as a Palestinian state. The prime minister called on the United States to announce publicly its opposition to both [as heard] possibilities. Regarding Camp David, the prime minister wrote that an Arab side that does not fully accept the Camp David accords will not be able to adopt parts of the agreement. In other words: all or nothing.

Finally, the prime minister announced that the commitments the United States made to the Arabs do not bind Israel. Jerusalem says these are our red lines. U.S. sources said they contain the potential for an explosion.

Envoy to Germany: Territories Open for Discussion

LD3010100191 Hamburg DPA in German 0920 GMT
30 Oct 91

[Text] Saarbruecken (DPA)—Israel's ambassador, Binjamin Navon, has said that there is scope for compromise during the negotiations at the Madrid Middle East peace conference. The leadership of the delegation, led by Yitzhaq Shamir, was "definitely not" pursuing a tough course, Navon said today in an interview with Saarland Radio. He added: "The territories can be discussed as a topic." He objected to the idea that his country was on a confrontation course. Israel is striving at the Madrid talks for "peace between us and our neighboring states and good coexistence with the Palestinians."

As an expression of the "inequality between us and the Arab world," Navon criticized the extra time allocated to the Jordanians and the Palestinians for speeches in

Madrid. Israel felt this inequality with "four million Jews versus 130 million Arabs" also in the demography and with "22 Arab voices and only one voice of Israel" in the UN.

Knesset Members Fund Ad Against Returning Golan

TA2910132691 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
29 Oct 91 p A3

[Advertisement sponsored and signed by 61 Knesset members, MK's, calling themselves "the Lobby for the Golan Heights." The advertisement also appears on page 10 of Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew and on page A8 of Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 29 October]

[Text] Keeping the Golan

We, the undersigned MK's, hereby declare:

1. Israel regards the Golan Heights as a vital area of crucial importance for the safety of the State of Israel in times of peace.
2. In negotiations for a permanent settlement Israel will insist on its sovereignty over the Golan Heights.
3. The Israeli Government will do its best to bolster settlement and to strengthen our hold over the Golan Heights.

[Signed] MK Shlomo Hilel—Alignment [as published]—
chairman of the Lobby for the Golan Heights
MK Abu-Hatzera Aharon—Likud
MK Eytan Mikha'el—Likud
MK Eytan Refa'el—Likud
MK Arbeli-Almozlino Shoshana—Alignment
MK Begin Ze'ev Binyamin—Likud
MK Bibi Yig'al—NRP [National Religious Party]
MK Ben-El'azer Binyamin—Alignment
MK Ben-Elisar Eliyahu—Likud
MK Ben-Menahem Eliyahu—Alignment
MK Bar-Lev Hayim—Alignment
MK Gid'on Gadot—Likud
MK Goldberg Yosef—Likud
MK Goldman Mikha—Alignment
MK Goldstein Pinhas—the Party for the Advancement
of Zionist Ideology in Israel [as published]
MK Gur Mordekhay—Alignment
MK Gal Gdalya—Alignment
MK Grupper Pesah—the Party for the Advancement of
Zionist Ideology in Israel
MK Doron Sara—Likud
MK Dayan Shlomo—SHAS [Torah Observing
Sephardim]
MK Hurvitz Yiga'el—Likud
MK Hanegbi Tzahi—Likud
MK Ha'etzni Elyaqim—Tehiya
MK Weinstein Ari'el—Likud
MK Verdiger Avraham—Agudat Yisra'el
MK Ze'evi Rehav'am—Moleket
MK Sussman 'Imanu'el—Alignment
MK Kohen Ge'ula—Tehiya
MK Kohen Ra'anana—Alignment

MK Katz-'Oz Avraham—Alignment
MK Levi Ya'ir—SHAS
MK Linn Uri'el—Likud
MK Levi Yitzhaq—NRP
MK Landau 'Uzi—Likud
MK Magen David—Likud
MK Mizrahi Eli'ezer—Ge'ulat Yisra'el
MK Matza Yehoshu'a—Likud
MK Netanyahu Binyamin—Likud
MK Solodar 'Edna—Alignment
MK 'Azran Yosef—SHAS
MK 'Eli 'Ovadya—Likud
MK 'Amor Sha'ul—Likud
MK Porat Hanan—NRP
MK Pinhasi Refa'el—SHAS
MK Porush Menahem—Agudat Yisra'el
MK Perah Yehuda—Likud
MK Tzur Ya'aqov—Alignment
MK Tzidon Yo'ash—Tzomet
MK Kaufman Hayim—Likud
MK Corfu Hayim—Likud
MK Qeysar Yisra'el—Alignment
MK Kleiner Mikha'el—Likud
MK Sciaki Avner Hay—NRP
MK Sagi Yehoshu'a—Likud
MK Shetrit Shim'on—Alignment
MK Shamay Ya'aqov—Likud
MK Shafat Gershon—Tehiya
MK Sprinzak Ya'ir—Moledet
MK Sharon Ari'el—Likud
MK Sharir Avraham—Likud
MK Tikhon Dan—Likud

Peace With the Golan.

Arens Speaks to Knesset on Tapuah, North Attacks

TA3010132791 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1155 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Address by Defense Minister Moshe Arens to the Knesset plenum in response to motions to the agenda; broadcast in progress—live]

[Text] reminded us of the reality in which we live. Yesterday, after I visited the Tapuah junction to examine the site of the ambush that resulted in the murder of Rachel Druck and Yitzhaq Rofe—may the Lord avenge their death—and the wounding of six small children, I went to Shilo to try to console Dudu Druck, Rachel's husband. I had the privilege of meeting a man who can be a model to all of us—as a Jew, as an Israeli, and as a human being—a model of love for Eretz Yisra'el, of fealty to the land, and of the ability to cope with such a grave and seemingly unbearable tragedy.

The murderers apparently have not yet learned that any such murders only strengthen our determination to bolster our presence in Eretz Yisra'el, but they will yet learn, from this case as well.

Some say that this is the price of peace. I must tell the members of the House that yesterday I felt as if we were

at war. We had five dead and 11 wounded at the Tapuah junction and on the northern border, in the eastern sector of the security zone, and this is not the price of peace. The perpetrators of such murders are not interested in peace. There is no doubt in my mind that even if they knew that they would fail to sabotage the Madrid conference and the peace process with these actions, they would nevertheless try to carry out such murders. They are out to murder Jews.

Throughout the history of Zionism we have suffered violence and terror, and this difficult struggle continues to this day.

Iranian, Syrian Roles Condemned

TA3010134891 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1205 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Report by Knesset correspondent Ze'ev Kohen]

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens ended his address to the Knesset plenum a few minutes ago. Responding to motions to the agenda, the defense minister said that people who commit murders are not interested in peace. He added that the terrorist squad that carried out yesterday's attack near the northern border's security fence belonged to the Islamic Jihad, which is part of the PLO's religious flank. He went on to say that the PLO also attended the conference of opponents of the Madrid conference held in Tehran, in which the Iranians declared their intention to annihilate the State of Israel. The defense minister also referred to the peace process.

[Begin Arens recording] Mr. Speaker, Members of the House:

I would like to remind all of us that a conference initiated by the Iranian Government was held in Tehran last week to discuss the Palestinian issue and support for the intifadah. This conference was attended by PLO representatives. The Iranian foreign minister as well as Prime Minister Hashemi-Rafsanjani, stated at this conference that the only solution to the Middle East conflict lies in the annihilation of the State of Israel.

Mr. Speaker, Iran is a member of the United Nations. Such a statement absolutely contravenes the UN Charter. Iran maintains diplomatic relations with most countries of the world, but none opens its mouth or wants to take notice of those elements and countries in the Middle East that have no intention whatsoever of joining the peace process. Quite the contrary, all they want is to torpedo it and proceed with their holy war against the State of Israel.

Hizballah enjoys the encouragement, support, and aid of the government in Tehran; this is a fact known to all. The activity of Hizballah and other PLO factions in south Lebanon is being conducted under the aegis of the Lebanese Army, which was recently deployed in south Lebanon and which has done nothing to disrupt or curb this activity. As is known to all, the Lebanese Army and

Government operate under the exclusive instructions of Damascus and the Syrians. Hizballah's command bases are located in al-Biq'a', in an area that is under the absolute control of the Syrian Army deployed there. Syria and its satellite, Lebanon, have now gone to Madrid—albeit without too much enthusiasm—to talk peace.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is important that we should enter the peace process without any illusions and conscious of the violence that characterizes a vast section of Arab society and the Middle East, but with a firm wish to break open the way for peace nonetheless. [end recording]

Three Soldiers Killed, 1 Injured in South Lebanon

TA2910182191 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1800 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Excerpt] Three IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers were killed and another was slightly injured when a roadside bomb was activated against an IDF unit moving in the eastern sector of the security zone in south Lebanon, near the village of 'Aramtah. The victims are Major Ronen Giorno from Moshav Even Shmu'el and First Sergeant Shahar Kohen from Moshav Mash'en. The family of the third victim has not been notified. [passage omitted]

Sharon Comments on Attack

TA2910203691 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1945 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] In a meeting with Likud activists in 'Akko this evening, Minister Ari'el Sharon criticized what he termed the lukewarm response to the report about the incident in which three Golani Brigade soldiers were killed in South Lebanon. Our correspondent Nati Zilberman reports:

[Begin recording] [Zilberman] Sharon's supporters first heard about the incident in which three soldiers were killed in the security zone from the minister himself, in the course of a rally of Likud activists held in 'Akko this evening. Sharon told his audience: Make no mistake, this region is in turmoil and terror is rampant. While you were making your way to this hall, we paid with the lives of three more victims:

[Sharon] And we keep on giving explanations. We have commentators of all kinds: ministers, officers, and politicians. They constantly explain why their brethren are being murdered, why Jews are being murdered. It is not the murderers, but the victims who do the explaining. It is enough that Jews are being murdered; I do not need any explanation as to why Jews are being murdered.

[Zilberman] Minister Sharon also commented on the events in Madrid. What is happening there, the construction minister said, might sentence all of us to death.

[Sharon] What is happening in Madrid threatens our very existence. Jews everywhere must step forth and make their voice heard. They must say that they will not allow this international tribunal to pass a death sentence on the State of Israel.

[Zilberman] The minister's followers made it unequivocally clear to Sharon that as long as the delegation is in Madrid they would pray for its success, but that the stock-taking would start as soon as its members get back. They added: Then we will demand from you, Mr. Minister, to summon an urgent meeting of the Likud Central Committee. [end recording]

Arens on Hizballah Attacks

TA2910201791 Jerusalem Israel Television Network
in Hebrew 1830 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by Army affairs correspondent Moshe Shlonsky, in the Tel Aviv studio—live]

[Text] [Shlonsky] Mr. Arens, in this studio 10 days ago, we asked you: What are you doing about Hizballah? This evening we are presenting the same question.

[Arens] Hizballah is operating in South Lebanon under the protection of the Lebanese Army, which does not intervene or disturb it. The Hizballah headquarters are in the al-Biq'a', which is controlled by the Syrian Army. It has declared it will do anything it can to disrupt the peace process and the Madrid conference. As we have all seen, for the past 10 days or more, there are daily attempts on their part to carry out terror acts.

[Shlonsky] My question was, what are the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and the defense establishment going to do about the Hizballah? Will you use air raids and artillery fire again, like today, or are you going to change the modus operandi in South Lebanon?

[Arens] We are learning the lessons from each of the incidents in South Lebanon. Our Air Force and ground forces operating there are familiar to all. If we make any tactical changes, we certainly will not tell them about it in the media. We are constantly and vigorously operating to hurt a dangerous enemy.

[Shlonsky] What is the meaning of your statement that the Madrid conference will not prevent an IDF operation against the terrorists? Does this mean a change of policy as soon as in the next few hours?

[Arens] This is no change in policy. We simply are stating the obvious: We will operate in South Lebanon to secure our forces, to secure the safety of the residents of northern Israel, without paying attention to anything. Hizballah and PLO men will not be able to take cover under the Madrid conference to hurt us.

[Shlonsky] The Hizballah presence in South Lebanon is not new. This has been taking place for several months. Do you not think that it is too late now and that we

should have taken action some six or nine months ago, when they started going south, when in fact the IDF did nothing?

[Arens] I would not say that nothing was done. There was a time that Amal was still around. The Lebanese Army came in, and it was not clear just what it would do. Today, it is absolutely clear that Amal is doing nothing, that the Lebanese Army is providing cover for Hizballah.

[Shlonsky] Do you intend to impose a curfew on all of the territories during the conference days: Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday?

[Arens] No, we do not intend to impose a curfew on all the territories. I believe there is no need for that.

[Shlonsky] What do you intend to do in view of the rising wave of terror attacks throughout the territories?

[Arens] We will continue operating by means of intelligence to foil the attacks. We will take preemptive steps while employing deterrence methods. We have reinforced our units on site, and we will do everything we can to ensure security.

[Shlonsky] Mr. Arens, there is the impression that, in fact, the events are determined by the terrorists. At first, they used stones and demonstrations; now they have resorted to firearms and daily attacks. We are witnessing severe terror attacks almost every day. Instead of us leading, the terrorists in the field are deciding for us.

[Arens] Look, we are not terrorists. We are not carrying out acts of terror.

[Shlonsky, interrupting] By leading I mean preventing.

[Arens] The easiest thing for us would be to attack Arab settlements. We do not want to do this. We do not believe in collective punishment. If you want us to lead, we can, but we do not lead like that. A person who engages in terror activity, one who sits in ambush waiting for a bus to come his way—you may call him a leader; I call him a murderer.

[Shlonsky] The fact is that he hurts innocent Israeli civilians and injures soldiers in the Nabulus casbah.

[Arens] The one who led the way here is that woman who is referred to as an adviser to the Palestinian delegation in Madrid, Hanan 'Ashrawi, who when leaving for Madrid announced that the events in the field have to be exacerbated. Men were found to follow her instructions.

[Shlonsky] Speaking of the Madrid conference: Are you surprised by the high profile of the Palestinian delegation, as we saw it in the last few hours?

[Arens] No, I am not surprised at all. It had to be expected that they would try anything to make the headlines, and they are doing just that.

[Shlonsky] Mr. Arens, thank you.

Air Raids, Shelling Continue in South Lebanon

Planes Return Safely

TA2910182491 Jerusalem Israel Television Network
in Hebrew 1800 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman reports: Air Force planes attacked a terrorist target in al-Nabatiyah in South Lebanon this evening. The target was hit, and all of our planes returned safely to their bases. The target attacked was a Hizballah camp, the organization which assumed responsibility for some of the recent attacks in South Lebanon.

2d Attack on al-Nabatiyah

TA2910213991 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
2130 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Israeli Air Force planes carried out a second raid tonight on a terrorist target in al-Nabatiyah, which served as a Hizballah base. The target sustained direct hits and all our planes returned safely to their base.

Targets Shelled Overnight

TA3010054491 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
0500 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Excerpt] IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and SLA [South Lebanese Army] guns shelled terrorist targets in southern Lebanon throughout last night. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht was told by UN headquarters sources that numerous Israel Air Force flights were observed in south Lebanese skies. [passage omitted]

'Sporadic' Shelling Leaves 1 Dead

TA3010152891 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1500 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and SLA [South Lebanese Army] artillery continued to direct sporadic fire at terrorist targets in the al-Nabatiyah area. UNIFIL [UN Interim Force in Lebanon] headquarters has told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that 260 shells have been fired since last night. The al-Nabatiyah police have reported that one person was killed and two sustained serious injuries in the Israeli air raid on the Hizballah headquarters in town last night. The building was totally ruined.

Women Form Camp Near Site of Attack

TA2910163091 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1600 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Several women settled this evening in an encampment in the Tapuah junction, near the site of the terrorist attack last night. The women moved to the site immediately after the funeral of Rachel Druck, one of the victims of the attack. An Israeli Army unit is guarding their safety.

Women Move to Alternate Location

TA2910190191 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1830 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Several dozen women, who set up tents near the site of last night's terror attack in the Tapuah junction, agreed this evening to dismantle the temporary encampment and move to an outpost established on the site by the Israeli Army.

Permanent Settlement Promised

TA2910203891 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
2000 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Several dozen settlers from Judea and Samaria will move to the vicinity of an outpost set up by the Israel Defense Forces at the site of yesterday's terrorist attack in the Tapuah junction. They will dismantle the temporary camp they set up some 2 km away.

Leaders of the Council of Settlements in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza told our correspondent, Mikha'el Tuchfeld, that senior government sources promised to set up a permanent settlement on the site.

Construction Begins on Shilo Settlement Expansion

TA2910212391 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
2056 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Talk in the studio between anchorman Eytan Almog and correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld—live]

[Text] [Almog] Not too long ago you reported about a settlement near the Tapuah junction, and now you have other developments to report.

[Tuchfeld] Yes, another settlement, this time in Shilo; everything seems to revolve around Shilo. This has been confirmed by the spokesman of the Gush Emunim delegation in Madrid—the right-wing delegation of the Council of Jewish Settlements in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza—who issued a statement to this effect.

What is actually happening in the field can be described as Shilo-B, perhaps the expansion of Shilo. The reference is to an addition of some 70 housing units to the settlement of Shilo, apparently as part of a plan that has been approved by the government.

[Almog] I have a cynical question. One cannot possibly start construction on 70 housing units at this time of the day, at 2057. This must have been planned beforehand.

[Tuchfeld] There were plans to start building these additional housing units within six months, but construction is starting now.

[Almog] In other words, the message being sent from Shilo to Madrid is one of speeding up the construction of Shilo-B or the expansion of Shilo by another 70 housing units.

[Tuchfeld] Indeed, speeding up in the speediest sense of the word.

'Ashrawi Urges Steadfast Stand Against Settlers

TA3010122491 Jerusalem Israel Television Network
in Hebrew 1025 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Report by correspondent in the territories Amir Hay—recorded]

[Text] The East Jerusalem papers once again appeared today in newspaper stands in the territories, reporting on the opening of the Madrid conference with banner headlines. AL-QUDS and AL-SHA'B emphasize that today, a genuine and historic opportunity is being given to all the sides to settle the conflict. AL-FAJR asks the question: Which sort of peace Shamir is seeking: peace in exchange for territories or, God forbid, peace in exchange for peace.

As for the latest terrorist attacks, these are mentioned in a special message sent from Madrid by Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokesman of the Palestinian delegation. The message appears in all the newspapers. 'Ashrawi writes that the inhabitants of the territories must take a steadfast stand in the face of the furious reactions of the settlers, who are equipped with firearms, but she fails to denounce the latest terrorist attacks.

Iranian Infiltrator Killed, 3 Captured Near Eilat

TA3010070191 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0600 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] unit last night killed an infiltrator, a person born in Iran, and captured three others approximately 8 km north of Eilat. Six Iranian infiltrators also were captured earlier this week—apparently people who want political asylum in Israel.

Masked Man Shot Dead, Another Wounded in Hebron

TA2910190791 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1900 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] This evening in Hebron, a masked man was shot dead and another was wounded by Israeli Army soldiers. The soldiers encountered a group of masked men and called on them to halt, but when their call went unheeded they opened fire.

General Strike Observed in Territories 30 Oct

TA3010130491 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1200 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] An Israeli soldier was slightly injured when struck by a stone in the Gaza Strip and was taken to Barzilai Hospital in Ashqelon for treatment. Three Gaza residents were injured this morning by soldiers' gunfire as rioters were being dispersed.

In Judea and Samaria, too, several inhabitants were injured this morning under similar circumstances.

Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the general strike in the territories is being observed almost in full. Small-scale marches by supporters of the peace conference were held this morning in Qalqilyah and in Janin. Parades attended by thousands of supporters of the peace conference were staged in Gaza, Rafah, and Khan Yunis.

3,000 Gazans March in Support of Peace

TA2910152691 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1500 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] A peace march was held this afternoon in Gaza. Some 3,000 local inhabitants marched through the city's main street, holding flowers and olive branches, in a manifestation of support for peace and the Madrid conference. Attorney Muhammad Abu-Sha'ban told our correspondent Moti Amir that Border Police and Israeli Army jeeps drove along the marchers, who offered the soldiers flowers and olive branches.

Fatah, Hamas Members Clash Over March

TA3010153091 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1500 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Six residents of Qalqilyah and the Zaytun neighborhood [in Gaza] were injured today during knife battles between Fatah supporters, who organized solidarity marches in support of the Madrid conference, and Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] sympathizers, who oppose it. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that approximately 20 residents were hurt today by stones and in violent brawls which erupted against the backdrop of the power struggles between these two groups.

Ministry Admits Welfare Funds Used in Silwan

TA2910102691 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR
in Hebrew 29 Oct 91 p 8

[Report by Betzal'el 'Amiqam]

[Text] MAPAM [United Workers Party] Knesset Member [MK] Hayim Oron yesterday leveled serious charges in the Knesset's Public Audit Committee regarding the transfer of approximately 2 million shekels that were designated to aid welfare cases, but were used to purchase properties in Silwan.

Oron asserted that the Society for the Rehabilitation of the Jewish Quarter has become the central venue for various activities in other quarters of Jerusalem's Old City.

Finance Ministry Accountant General Eli Yonas admitted that part of the funds used to finance the purchase of properties in East Jerusalem were taken

from budgetary clauses that were originally earmarked for other needs, including housing aid to the needy.

At this point, State Comptroller Miryam Ben-Porat said that this issue requires political sensitivity, and that she would be willing to look into the matter if asked to do so by the committee members.

Oron also raised the issue of money allocations to the "Ateret Kohenim" Yeshiva extended within the framework of mortgage allotments.

MK Oron on Scope of Investments

TA2910113391 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1100 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Approximately 25 percent of the funds destined for the promotion of financial investment, which were included in the Industry and Trade Ministry's upcoming budget, are earmarked for the promotion of investments in the territories. This was reported by our correspondent Eytan Almog on the basis of data revealed by Knesset Member Hayim Oron from MAPAM. The sum in question amounts to 117 million shekels designated for the territories, compared with 362 million shekels allocated for the promotion of investments within the Green Line.

MK Ari'el Weinstein, the Likud's coordinator in the Knesset Finance Committee, told our correspondent in reaction that the reason behind the investment is the influx of young couples into the territories, which has created the need to establish a housing and employment infrastructure there.

40 Percent of Housing Starts Slated in Territories

TA3010100191 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
30 Oct 91 p 15

[Report by Marit Gilat]

[Text] The Construction and Housing Ministry will allocate some 40 percent of the 1992 housing starts to the territories, Knesset Member Avraham Shohat, Labor Party representative in the Knesset Finance Committee, disclosed yesterday. The national budget proposal presented to the Knesset yesterday refers to a program to build 13,000 apartments around the country, but it does not contain full details of the building sites. Shohat said that according to an internal Construction and Housing Ministry document, the ministry intends to build 5,000 of those apartments in the territories.

Nuclear Era Said Developing in Middle East

TA2810154691 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT
in Hebrew 28 Oct 91 p 19

[Ron Ben-Yishay commentary: "The Middle East is Racing, Not Striding, Toward the Nuclear Era"]

[Text] Moshe Arens, reserved as usual, last week told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that "the Middle East is striding toward an era of nuclear weapons." Striding, Mr. Arens? Why not racing? It is possible that the defense minister did not want to spread panic among the public. Perhaps he did not want to disclose everything he knows about the efforts being made by the countries in the region to arm themselves with weapons of mass destruction. Had he been precise, however, he would have said that the Middle East is already in the midst of an intensive race, with many participants, to manufacture nuclear bombs and missiles.

Iraq is leading the race and was only 15 months away from having the bomb when it was cut short—at least for some time. The top spot which it vacated was taken by Iran, which, according to various assessments, is now some five years away from producing a bomb. Iran is now buying missile-producing capability from China and North Korea. The main motive is the Iranian desire to balance the nuclear terror against Iraq.

But the Iranians recently began to state openly that Israel is its real and immediate target. We should believe people like Deputy President 'Ata'ollah Mohajerani, who only last week said: "If Israel continues to keep nuclear weapons, the Muslims will have to cooperate in order to manufacture an atomic bomb." His deputy [title as published], Hashemi-Rafsanjani, (who is considered a moderate in the West) said the same thing in an all-Islamic conference called to discuss ways to torpedo the peace process. We must remember in that context that Iran is Syria's ally and we should assume that what the Iranians have can either directly or indirectly also serve the Syrians.

In the past, the countries in the region also tried to procure a bomb, but the traditional nuclear superpowers, including the USSR and PRC, refused to sell them a ready-made bomb so the leaders in the region took the long but more certain path of developing and manufacturing their own. In the early 1990's [date as published] their attempts were hesitant, but they have gathered momentum lately, mainly because in the Middle East—and not only in Iraq—a scientific and technological infrastructure has been developed, which, when added to the financial returns from oil, permits the Arab states to enter technological fields previously not within their reach. The second reason is that the traditional powers in the West and East bloc have lost their monopoly on nuclear technologies and missile manufacture.

At least seven countries in the Third World are today capable of developing and manufacturing surface-to-surface missiles and an atomic bomb, or very close to it. North Korea, Pakistan, India, China, Brazil, and Argentina are the leaders, and they include poor countries whose governments, and the scientists they trained, find it very hard to withstand the financial temptations the Arabs and Iranians extend to them, especially since

the Arabs are not trying to procure a ready-made bomb but only technological parts and instruments they cannot obtain in the West.

But the latest development, which is of major concern, is linked to the USSR. The Arabs have recently been given access to a new channel. The disintegration of the central government in the USSR, the serious economic situation there, and the drastic cuts Gorbachev is ordering in the development of ballistic and nuclear weapons, have thrown into the marketplace thousands of hungry scientists and missile engineers. What such a scientist has to do is just to cross the border into Iran and his future is assured. It is a real gold mine through which the Arabs and the Iranians can obtain whatever they ever wanted in the fields of missile and nuclear technology. These scientists, if preemptive steps are not taken to prevent their desertion to Middle East countries aspiring to a bomb, could make a joke out of all the supervisory efforts and treaties to prevent the transfer of nuclear know-how and missile technology that President Bush and the West worked so hard to achieve.

If there is anything in the Arab claim that since the 1970's the State of Israel has a monopoly on nuclear weapons in the Middle East, which assures it against total destruction, then it is going to lose it. What that means is not the creation of a balance of nuclear terror in the Middle East, but a dangerous imbalance because the sensitivity in the Arab states to loss of life is nothing like that in Israel.

To preempt that danger to our existence, the Government of Israel must give supreme priority to a concentrated national effort to foil it. The focus of the effort must be the intelligence community, which must follow the nuclear armament effort in the Arab countries and provide a timely warning if and when there is an Arab plan to use weapons of mass destruction. At the same time, Israel must extend full support to U.S. efforts to promote an effective convention to supervise the development and production of nuclear weapons even if it obliges Israel to accept such supervision. The only condition upon which Israel must insist is that it will not be asked to disarm itself of such weapons if it has any, at least as long as it is not assured beyond any doubt that the Arab states and Iran have given up that option forever.

In addition, Israel must exploit all its diplomatic and other ties with the USSR and its republics to prevent a transfer of tactical nuclear weapons to Iran and the other Arab states. On that, Israel must and can be assisted by Germany, the United States, and Japan, which provide economic aid to the USSR. Israel itself must speed up the development and operational deployment of the Arrow, its early warning systems, and the anti-aircraft missiles which complete the system. Israel must also prepare the public and the shelters on the home front for a new kind of threat.

According to all the signs, Israel still has time to take these steps and it has the necessary resources for that task. The question is to what extent the Israeli Government can deal with the responsibility placed on it.

Al-Asad Said Pursuing Military Buildup

TA2910153691 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT
in Hebrew 29 Oct 91

[By Ron Ben-Yishay: "Al-Asad Is Also Preparing for War"]

[Text] President al-Asad is not pinning much hope on the Madrid conference. He is apparently preparing a military option, under the umbrella of the peace process. Otherwise, Israeli security forces claim, it is difficult to come up with an acceptable explanation for the Syrian Army's recent accelerated weapons buildup and for the massive resources the Syrian president is investing in it.

It appears that during the past six months Syria renewed its efforts to achieve strategic parity with Israel—or in other words to reach a situation in which it can take Israel on by itself and even achieve accomplishments on the battlefield. This constitutes a turnabout in al-Asad's defense strategy. It was only two years ago that al-Asad announced that he was ceasing his efforts to reach strategic parity with Israel due to the economic crisis in his country.

It was the rehabilitation money Syria received after supporting and participating in the coalition against Saddam Husayn that permitted this reversal. The \$2 billion al-Asad received from the Gulf states during the war and in its wake were utilized for solely one purpose: to increase Syria's military strength vis-a-vis Israel.

The military aspects to be built up were decided according to the lessons learned during the Gulf War. Damascus apparently noticed the Israeli home front's reaction to the Iraqi "al-Husayn" missiles and understand the inherent potential in the Israeli sensitivity to the loss of human lives, especially to fatalities from amongst the civilian population. The Syrians also saw that the Americans were incapable of destroying the missiles and the launchers even though they expended great effort.

In addition, the Syrians were directly exposed to the sophisticated equipment and weapons used by the British and American troops and observed how they were put to operational use. This also had an effect. That is why three weapon systems head the Syrian shopping list: surface-to-surface missiles; state of the art interceptor and fighter planes; and surface-to-air missiles with a modern performance package.

The Syrians are nearing the desired qualitative leap in the field of anti-aircraft missiles. They are now holding advanced negotiations with the Soviet Union on the purchase of a system which is almost identical in performance to the U.S. Patriot system. According to all the

signs, the Soviets have managed to copy or steal the technologies used by the Patriot and its radar systems and to employ them in their own system, which is produced under the name S-300 PMU by a Moscow-based company called Almaz [name as published].

This sophisticated weapons system, known to NATO as SA-10, can intercept a plane at almost every height above 25 meters. Its range is 60 kilometers and it is very effective. If and when this system reaches Syria the Israeli Air Force will be facing a difficult problem. The Syrians will be able to intercept Israeli planes already over Israeli airspace even if they flying at low altitudes.

Last month the Syrians signed a \$2 billion deal with the USSR in which they bought MiG-29's, advanced assault Sukhoy-24's, and according to rumors, also advanced interceptor Sukhoy-27 Jets. The Syrian Air Force has one squadron of MiG-29's and they are apparently interested in forming several such squadrons of 48 planes each. In the framework of this deal, the Syrians have acquired 300 T-72 tanks of the advanced type that has a very advanced and upgraded fire-control system.

Dozens such tanks have recently arrived in Syria, but not from the USSR—from Czechoslovakia. It becomes apparent, therefore, that the statements made by Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel when President Herzog visited there were baseless. When Havel stood by Herzog's side and said that he would not sell tanks to Syria, the deal was already signed, sealed, and partly even delivered. The Syrians got, for less than \$1 million a piece—practically a steal—a tank which is the state of the art of the dollar-thirsty Czechoslovak industry.

Even during the Gulf war, as if by a signal, East Europe found a renewed interest in Syrian Defense Ministry buyers. The Soviets have undergone a complete about-face: Since 1987 they have been refusing to supply arms to Syria and even demanded that they repay their multi-billion dollar debt for previously supplied weapons. In February 1991, however, the USSR arms warehouses opened their gates wide to the Syrians, and so did the Czechoslovaks and the Yugoslavs.

Many experts believe that the favorable attitude in East Europe toward the Syrian shopping requests is the result of the U.S. change of attitude toward Syria after it joined Operation Desert Shield, and perhaps also a secret U.S.-USSR understanding. Possibly, according to this understanding, the Soviets may sell arms to the Syrians just as the United States is rewarding Israel for its restraint during the Gulf war. Secret agreement or not, the money naturally talked.

The Syrians, whose new status on the international arena has given them unbelievable advantages, were quick to take advantage of it to expand and upgrade their firepower. For example, when the Syrian 9th Division returned from the Gulf, it took with it dozens of relatively new Iraqi tanks.

It is believed today that, for the first time in history, the Syrian Army is nearing parity with the IDF in most military components. Two years ago, the Syrians had 10 armored and mechanized divisions; today they have 11 and another is being set up. In certain aspects—such as tanks (4,500) and fighter planes (some 620)—the Syrians have more than the IDF, according to foreign publications. More importantly, the qualitative gap is rapidly closing.

The USSR cannot sell al-Asad everything he wants because of the agreements on ballistic missile disarmament with the United States, although he it is the Soviet goods, mainly the precise SS-23 missile, which the Syrian president really wants.

This is why North Korea remains Syria's main supplier of upgraded Scud-B missiles. In all, Syria bought 60

Scud-C missiles and 12 mobile launchers. Although their range, 500 km, is less than that of the Iraqi al-Husayn (600 km), they are more precise, and their warhead can carry 800 kg of explosives, 2.5 times more than the al-Husayn.

In April 1991, Syria received 20 Scud-C missiles. Recently, another South Korean [as published] ship crossed the Suez Canal with mobile launchers for the Scud C and additional equipment; the rest will soon be delivered.

The Syrian Army is, therefore, in the midst of an unprecedented armament campaign, which means an upgrading in two aspects: Its ability to deal with the Israeli Air Force supremacy, and its ability to inflict human casualties on the Israeli rear. It is small wonder Israel is concerned.

Group Claims Attack on U.S. Embassy

NC3010064191 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0627 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] AFP has cited an unidentified person claiming to be speaking on behalf of the Arab Revolutionary Platoons [al-Fasa'il al-Thawriyah al-'Arabiyyah] as saying that this organization is responsible for the attack on the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. He stressed that the operation was in retaliation for the capitulation which the United States and Israel want to impose on the Arabs.

Attack Response to 'Capitulation'

NC3010064791 Paris AFP in English 0003 GMT
30 Oct 91

[Text] Beirut, Oct 30 (AFP) - An Arab group opposed to the Middle East peace conference fired an anti-tank rocket into the U.S. Embassy compound north of here late Tuesday, causing slight damage but no casualties, security sources said.

The rocket-propelled grenade hit a wall surrounding the embassy, located in Awkar district, north of the city. The attack came as U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker was in Madrid to attend the conference, which opens Wednesday.

It was claimed shortly afterwards by a little-known group calling itself the Revolutionary Arab Fractions [name as received].

A caller speaking Arabic said the attack was a response to "the capitulation that Israel and America want to impose on the Arabs."

The caller said his group aimed to "carry on the struggle against the Israeli and American enemy and against all plans for capitulation" in the armed struggle.

He said the group had also claimed other attacks in the past, although he did not elaborate.

A large contingent of Lebanese Army troops took up positions in the area immediately after the attack, setting up roadblocks on roads leading to the mission, eyewitnesses said.

Security sources said that protection for the embassy had been beefed up ahead of the Madrid talks.

Hizballah Leader al-Musawi on Madrid Conference

NC3010110091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed
in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 30 Oct 91

[News conference given by Hizballah Secretary General 'Abbas al-Musawi on 29 October, place not given—recorded]

[Text] I take refuge in God from the condemned Satan. In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Praise be to God, Lord of the universe. God's prayers

and peace be on the most honorable of his creation, Muhammad, his kin, and his good and pure companions.

To start with, I wish to welcome our dear brothers, the journalists. I ask God Almighty to guide your steps in your difficult and important task.

I will now attempt to explain concisely the dangers of the current stage, particularly in connection with what will happen tomorrow. It is an ill-omened day in our nation's history. The Madrid conference comes at a critical stage in our nation's history. This nation, with its various peoples, will either realize what this conference—designed to sell off the cause—heralds for it and receive, as a result of this major conspiracy, a violent shock that will awaken it; or, God forbid, it will remain heedless and inert and consequently incur humiliation, disgrace, and defeat.

It is necessary to pause at this point to make a full assessment of our nation's situation. It is appropriate to begin with a review of the conference-conspiracy.

The venue of the Madrid conference provokes painful historical memories. The conference is being held at a time when defeat casts its heavy shadow on the Arabs: Its very context is designed to sell off the sacred cause of Palestine, and the recognition and negotiation with the enemy that it involves will entail, as a fait accompli, an acceptance of Israel as legitimate. This is accompanied by an aggrandizement of the usurping Zionist entity in human, geographical, and military terms. All this will make regional peace impossible. It will open the doors wide for Israeli expansionist ambitions and, consequently, will subject the entire region to more wars and crises. Judging by the foregoing, Madrid is not a road to peace, as they allege, but is a key to manifold and inevitable future crises and wars. Consequently, it has been necessary for this nation to declare its position.

The comprehensive Tehran conference was probably the most truthful and strongest expression of this nation's deep conscience. All Muslim peoples were represented by their delegates and the freemen of the Islamic world, who categorically rejected the capitulationist conference—a shock to the Madrid conference even before it began.

The extent of the action we are seeing in many parts of the Islamic homeland could be very important; it extends from inside Palestine, where the masses rejected the liquidation conference, to Jordan, where rejectionist Islamists clashed with the ruling regime, and to other Muslim countries. These blessed actions provide the best chance for changing our circumstances, and prove the people's efficiency, enabling revolutionary and Islamic forces to shape the nation's real future, particularly the Muslim people's ability, its sacrifices defying imagination. In Iran, that ability created the miracle of the 20th century. In Palestine, the intifadah, exemplifying the oppressed victory against oppressive arrogance. In resisting Lebanon, ability destroyed every myth that

frightened the oppressed: the myth of the American god, the oppressive imperialist West, and Israel's invincible Army.

Sacrifice and contribution are repeated throughout the Islamic homeland, especially where our people are put behind bars and strung from gallows. Considering the people's generous sacrifices, the regimes alone are responsible for the Madrid conference's consequences and outcome. Humiliation and fright, shown by constant attacks on our people in Palestine, south Lebanon, and western al-Biqā', where villages are encircled by fire and suffering, and most of the inhabitants displaced, show the scandalous regime positions and weaknesses. At the same time they cower behind the silence of defeat before the America hyena.

Let the world see that the Palestinian cause has today, more than at any other time, become the leading cause of freedom, our conscience, our banner, and everything in our lives. The world will be surprised to see that this sacred cause—when the largest conference is being held to liquidate it—has been rejuvenated. Because the plot is grave, the cause will move from the plotting rulers' hands to those of the loyal, honest, and sacrificing people. Only then can the cause be adopted and Palestine liberated, God willing.

There are several practical matters shaping the future for this cause:

1. Brother leaders of Islamic movements, particularly the leaders of the dear Islamic Republic of Iran, and scholar leaders, should shoulder their historic and religious responsibilities, defending holy places and the nation's dignity. They should do so boldly and courageously in front of the nation's sacrificing masses. This will be the greatest incentive for the nation to sacrifice everything.
2. Our nation and its people, especially the people of this region, are called on today to stand seriously and responsibly. Such a united and comprehensive stand will constitute an impregnable bulwark against the U.S.-Zionist tide, guaranteeing liberation and independence, God willing.
3. We stress the danger of estrangement between regimes and their people. At a time when a people's regime should constitute its conscience and heart, regimes in the Islamic homeland appear isolated. The most prominent and grave result of this estrangement is the Madrid conference of treason. The regimes are totally out of touch with their people. Our people in Lebanon—who resisted the American and Zionist invaders and who are continuing their sacrifices and jihad—could never forgive the Lebanese regime's historic error of joining the Madrid conference. The regime is called on before the people to rescind.
4. We salute the jihad and the Islamic resistance heroes' sacrifices, especially in recent operations reflecting prevailing strength and courage, and at the historic Tehran conference, which saw hope and the future in these

operations. We emphasize that brother mujahidin alone will decide the nation's future. Today, two very large operations were staged, one inside the border strip and the other in the occupied territories.

5. We call on our kinsmen and brothers in Lebanon to declare tomorrow, Wednesday, a day of anger, protest, and disavowal. We also call on Islamic and patriotic leaders in Lebanon to define their stands and resist this conference of treason.

Finally, we extend sincere greetings to our kinsmen, the sons of the intifadah in Palestine, who are continuing their great jihad, especially these days when they are confronting and protesting the Madrid conference. We greet them and see in their noble and faithful faces this nation's inevitable victory, which comes from God, our supporter. Thanks be to God.

More on Conference, Resistance Attacks

NC2910161791 (*Clandestine*) *Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon* 1230 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] At a news conference today, Hizballah Secretary General 'Abbas al-Musawi discussed the peace conference and Hizballah's stand in rejecting it. He urged Islamic leaders, especially Iranian leaders, to shoulder their historic and religious responsibility to defend the nation's sanctities and dignity.

Al-Musawi said that Lebanon's participation in the Madrid conference is a historic, stupid error and claimed that the only thing that Lebanon thought about before accepting the invitation was satisfying the Americans. He said he does not expect an Israeli withdrawal from Jazzin and that Washington [as heard] reneged on its promises to withdraw from Jazzin. We will not believe what the state is promoting, he said, adding that even if Israel withdraws from the south, our goal is to liberate Jerusalem. He called on President al-Hirawi to fulfill his promise and commitment concerning the resistance if Resolution 425 is not implemented.

Al-Musawi discussed today's operation inside the occupied territory, saying that the resistance had been waiting for the Israelis in order to carry out their attack. Helicopters carried out large-scale search operations in the area following the attack, he said, adding that reinforcements were brought in after which another clash took place with resistance men. He said that the resistance has said that the enemy has suffered huge losses.

The Hizballah leader also confirmed that another operation has taken place inside the border strip resulting in two deaths and several injuries.

Hizballah To 'Intensify' Operations

NC2910185791 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic* 1715 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Excerpt] Hizballah, which claimed responsibility for an anti-Israeli operation today, has said that it will intensify

its operations to abort the Madrid conference. Hizballah Secretary General 'Abbas al-Musawi said that anti-Israeli operations will double. He refused to say, however, whether the group will commence political assassinations.

At a press conference today, al-Musawi said that Syria encourages the Islamic resistance activity against the Israeli Army in the south, saying: The wider the scope of the resistance activity, the stronger the Syrian negotiating power will be, because the Islamic resistance is the strongest card Syria holds. [passage omitted]

Hizballah's Qasim on Israeli 'Aggressions'

NC2910082691 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed
in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Hizballah Deputy Secretary General Shaykh Na'im Qasim has stated that the brutal Zionist aggressions in the past two weeks against our people and villages in the steadfast Jabal 'Amil area confirm the nature of the Zionist entity's ambitions toward the territories and water and its aggressive policy against the defenseless women, children, and elderly. It also serves as proof of the expansionist views that consider southern Lebanon as part of the Greater Israel plan, he said.

His eminence added: Creating constant tension in this region aims to prepare the atmosphere for its usurpation at the appropriate time. The Israeli bombardment is in line with the enemy's methods of seeking to fulfill its expansionist goals. The conference to be held in Madrid is just one of those cheap attempts to maintain the occupation of territories, which goes hand in hand with the continued acts of aggression and the construction of settlements.

His eminence noted that the remarkable rallying by our people in Jabal 'Amil around the Islamic resistance has alarmed Israel. The qualitative resistance operations that inflicted heavy casualties among the enemy ranks have become a wide-scale popular demand to respond to the usurping occupier. This has aroused the indignation of

the occupier, prompting it to direct its rage against the people, thinking that this might separate the sincere resistance from its advocates. But the adverse reaction by the people through their tolerance of the hardships and their backing of the resistance men have frustrated the plans of the ill-wishers, who wagered on weakening the resistance by separating it from its environment. Shaykh Qasim asked: Where is the state to support and back the resistance men? He noted that the honor of homelands is defended at the borders, not on chairs and thrones.

Israeli Jets Conduct Mock Raids

NC3010133591 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic
1300 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] According to the latest security reports from the south, the Israeli forces resumed artillery bombardment of al-Nabatiyah and its environs. A state of maximum alert prevails in all Israeli positions overlooking the liberated areas.

Meanwhile, Israeli warplanes are currently flying over the south and conducting mock raids at low altitude.

Embassy in Spain Receives Bomb Threat

NC2910181591 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1802 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Here is a report direct from the news desk:

Our correspondent in Madrid has reported that this evening the Lebanese Embassy in Madrid received a threat that 72 kg of explosives are planted in the embassy, located in a multi-story building.

The person, who conveyed the threat over the telephone in Spanish, said that he belongs to the Spanish Basque organization.

The Lebanese Embassy is currently being thoroughly search by Spanish security personnel. All employees have been evacuated.

India**Janata Dal Leaders Arrested En Route to Shrine***BK2910133891 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1230 GMT 29 Oct 91*

[Text] The Janata Dal leader, Mr. V.P. Singh, and several other leaders of the National Front-left parties combine were arrested today at Ramsnehighat Town while on their way to Ayodhya. The arrested include Mufti Muhammad Sayeed, Professor Madhu Dandavate, Mrs. Pramila Dandavate, Mr. K.P. Unnikrishnan, Mr. Janeshwar Mishra, Mrs. Sudhasini Ali, Mr. Chitta Basu, Mr. Chaturanand Mishra, and Mr. Samar Mukherjee. Mr. V.P. Singh and other leaders squatted on the road when they were stopped by the police. Mr. Singh said that he, along with his colleagues and supporters, wanted to observe a peaceful satyagrah [passive protest] at Faizabad to protest against the demolition of some temples by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad [World Hindu Council] activists and the Uttar Pradesh [U.P.] government's notification to acquire land around the disputed site. A police spokesman told our Lucknow correspondent that Mr. V.P. Singh's convoy was not allowed to proceed to Faizabad as this may have led to breach of peace.

In Faizabad, police resorted to lathi [baton] charge to disperse a mob which indulged in stone throwing. According to state officials, about half a dozen persons, including Mr. Vishwanath Shastri, MP, and Mr. Mitrasen Yadav, former MP, were injured. Four policemen also sustained injuries. An agency report, however, says that at least 25 persons were injured. About 300 persons were arrested while trying to take out a protest march to Ayodhya.

The center has asked the Uttar Pradesh government to ensure full protection to the Babri Masjid-Ram Janmabhoomi [disputed shrine] complex at Ayodhya. Talking to PTI, [Home Minister] Mr. Chavan said the center has dispatched 20 companies of the Central Reserve Police Force at the state government's request. The U.P. government has been given specific instructions to deploy the additional force only in Ayodhya.

The Uttar Pradesh chief minister has assured the center that all necessary steps have been taken for the protection of the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid structure in Ayodhya.

Party Leaders Released*BK3010034291 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 0245 GMT 30 Oct 91*

[Excerpts] The Janata Dal leader, Mr. V.P. Singh, and several other leaders of the National Front-Left parties combine who were arrested on their way to Ayodhya have been released. Mr. Singh and others were arrested at Ramsnehighat Town for apprehension of breach of peace. [passage omitted] Soon after his release, Mr. Singh alleged that the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party]

government is colluding with the Vishwa Hindu Parishad [VHP, World Hindu Council] in allowing, what he called, free passage to the kar sevaks [hindu volunteers] to demolish some temples in Ayodhya. He demanded immediate suspension of VHP activities in the temple city.

The Janata Dal president, Mr. S.R. Bommai, has described as hasty and uncalled for the arrest of Mr. V.P. Singh and other National Front leaders while they were proceeding to Ayodhya. In a statement in New Delhi, he alleged that while secular leaders are arrested and prevented from defending secularism, leaders and forces of communalism are let free to move in the disputed areas of Ayodhya.

BJP To Proceed With Ram Temple*BK2910161691 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1530 GMT 29 Oct 91*

[Text] The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] has accused the Congress-I and the Janata Dal of using the Ayodhya issue to garner what it calls the communal vote. In a statement issued in New Delhi, the party president, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, charged both parties of wanting to defame the Uttar Pradesh [U.P.] government.

The BJP leader, Mr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, said in New Delhi that Mr. V.P. Singh's action will not change the BJP's decision to build the Ram Temple at Ayodhya.

The convener of the Babri Masjid [disputed mosque] Coordination Committee, Syed Shahabuddin, in a letter to the prime minister, asked him to caution the U.P. government to fulfill its constitutional and legal obligations to ensure the rule of law.

Government Urged To Take Over Shrine*BK3010092291 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 0830 GMT 30 Oct 91*

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, a function is now being held within the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid [disputed temple-mosque] complex in memory of those killed during an agitation last year on this day. Official sources told our Lucknow correspondent that security has been strengthened in and around the disputed site.

Meanwhile, the Samajwadi Janata Party has asked the center to declare Ayodhya as a Union Territory. In a statement issued in New Delhi today, the secretary of the party said the government had acted rightly in sending the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] to Ayodhya to safeguard the interests of the peace-loving citizens. But the only solution, he said, was in the president issuing an ordinance to take over Ayodhya.

Iran

Mohtashemi Threatens Madrid Conference Participants

LD3010101491 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran Second Program Network in Persian 0450 GMT 30 Oct 91*

[Speech by former Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi at the Majles session on 30 October—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. It is regrettable to hear what has happened to the brother guards and their families by the [word indistinct] in recent days. I would like to raise some points in connection with the Madrid conference. "Verily, we are from God and to God we shall return." Today, the great tragedy of the world of Islam is taking shape and beginning in Madrid in the hands of the criminal U.S. and authorization of the hireling Arab leaders and some traitorous Palestinian leaders. The Islamic land of Palestine, its oppressed and courageous nation and the first Qebleh of Muslims, Jerusalem, is sold by the traitors and plundered by the Jews and Zionism.

The leaders of the Islamic states are endorsing this immense treachery through their deadly silence. They sell Palestine and the noble Jerusalem, and celebrate. The Muslim and heroic nation of Palestine is sacrificed before the Jews and Israel, and the Arab leaders dance in celebration.

Today is a day of public mourning, a day of wrath and anger of the Muslim nations in the face of the U.S. criminals, Zionism, and the hireling Arab leaders. Today's Madrid conference is clear evidence of the horrific U.S. crime and exposes the filthy and despicable nature of those who are participating in the Madrid conference. The conference's objective is to stabilize the occupying Zionist regime, to destroy Palestine and the noble Jerusalem, and open confrontation with Islam.

Participation in the U.S. so-called Middle East peace conference means the declaration of war on Islam and Muslims, with the participants classed as moharebs, for they have committed an unforgivable crime; and in accordance with Islam, the blood of a mohareb enemy must be shed. And no doubt the revolutionary Muslims, at the earliest appropriate opportunity, shall carry out their religious duty against them under any circumstances.

U.S. President Bush, as the initiator of this big crime, is considered to be a first-degree criminal and is classed as the most hated individual; and this hatred will remain until the moment of his punishment. The U.S. shall pay for this shameful conspiracy against the oppressed nation of Palestine and the dear Islam; and it shall not remain immune from the wrath and anger of the Hezbollah calls.

The revolutionary and martyr-nurturing offspring of the Imam will turn the world into a graveyard and an inferno for the criminal Americans and Zionists and their mercenaries. Israel—that cancerous and infectious growth—should not think that it has obtained a concession with the convening of the compromise conference and that it can continue its usurper and shameful life. What has occurred today is nothing but the arrival of the point of hostile confrontation between 1.2 billion angry Muslims and Israel—that illegitimate child of global arrogance.

The countdown has begun; the zero-point is approaching; the children of Ashura and Karbala are ready, and the bloody and destiny-making Hoseynite battle against global blasphemy is before us and the promise of justice based on the victory of the oppressed over the arrogant is certain. (The moment of justice has arrived). Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

Qom Seminarians Rally Against Madrid Peace Talks

LD3010113291 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Oct 91*

[Excerpts] In protest of the U.S.-organized Madrid conference, and in manifestation of sympathy with the people of Palestine, the students, clerics, and teachers of the Qom seminary today suspended lessons and organized a magnificent march. Our correspondent reports on the occasion:

[Begin unidentified correspondent recording] As their ranks swelled, the marchers passed through several streets and assembled at the Feyziyywh Seminary of Qom. Reading a resolution, they condemned the Madrid conference and called any compromise with the Zionist regime a betrayal of the Palestinian aspiration. They declared their preparedness to continue the path charted by His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may his dust be sanctified, under the leadership of the guardian of the cause of the muslim His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeini, to participate in the sacred Jihad to liberate the honourable Qods. [passage omitted]

In his remarks, Ayatollah Fazel Lankarani, secretary of the mamangemet council of the Qom seminary, referred to plots by the enemies of Islam and said: "The Madrid conference is in reality an anti-Islamic conference aimed at destruction of Islam and is taking place in a country which has a history of campaign against Islam." [end recording] [passage omitted]

IRNA Examines Prospects for Madrid Talks

LD2910214891 *Tehran IRNA in English 1456 GMT 29 Oct 91*

[Text] Madrid Oct. 29, IRNA—Just 24 hours before the start of the first United States-arranged Middle East conference between Israel and four Arab states, the main question on everybody's mind is: "What are the prospects of a breakthrough?"

"Will U.S. President George Bush, who arrived in Madrid Tuesday, succeed in the first test case of his version of the new world order?"

The American secretary of state, James Baker, who arranged the controversial conference after eight rounds of shuttle diplomacy in the region following the Persian Gulf war, is tight-lipped on the outcome of the conference.

"I am not going to predict what might or might not happen once the parties decide to sit down. Let's see them first sit down together," Baker last week commented.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, who is a co-sponsor to the Madrid conference, told an Arab daily that "our responsibility is that the results should not be a bitter taste to any side."

Gorbachev, who is also in Madrid for the conference, said the meeting itself was a "show of success." But he did not specify what that success meant.

The four Arab states are in Madrid with one main objective: to convince Israel to accept U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338 calling upon the Zionist state to withdraw from Palestinian territories occupied during the 1967 war.

However, how they aim to convince the illegal Zionist entity, which is hardening its illogical stances by the hour, is anybody's guess.

The U.S. is relying mainly on Egypt, the only Arab state to have signed the American brokered Camp David treaty with Israel, for the conference to succeed according to its plan.

Egypt has proposed four points as the basis of Arab-Israeli talks, i.e. land for peace, talks to be based on Resolution 242 and 338, self-determination for Palestinians and guarantee of security for all sides, and finally a halt of Jewish settlements against a stop of Arab economic boycott of Israel.

But the Zionist state rejects even to consider the withdrawal from territories it occupied in 1967 and is continuing erecting new Jewish settlements all over occupied Palestine.

The occupation of Syrian Golan Heights by the Israelis is also a pivotal issue in any negotiations. Western media reports say Israel may be ready to give up part of the Golan Heights in order to reduce tension and create a climate of goodwill during the Madrid conference.

Washington and Tel Aviv are expecting that after the three days of the ceremonial talks in Madrid the meeting will break up into bilateral talks between Israel and Syria, Lebanon and the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

But the four main Arab participants, including Egypt, have reportedly agreed not to talk separately with Israel and not to sign any other accord like the treacherous Camp David treaty unless the main issues of withdrawal and halt to construction of Jewish settlements are resolved.

On Tuesday a climate of nervousness, uncertainty mixed with pessimism surrounded the Spanish capital Madrid.

The killing of a U.S. serviceman and the injury of an Egyptian diplomat in bomb attacks in Ankara, Turkey, and the killing of two Israelis in occupied Palestine have heightened security tensions to its peak.

Journalists have to wait for nearly an hour in long queues outside the press centre to undergo security checks and their handbags sniffed by trained dogs of American security men.

The conference, regarded by Arabs and other Muslims alike, to be a plot to legitimize the Zionist entity's hold on Palestine, holds no chance of success, according to most observers.

The declaration passed last week at the Tehran international conference in support of the Islamic revolution in Palestine, ruled out any compromise with Israel, and backing the intifada, called for united Islamic efforts to liberate al-Quds [Jerusalem] the first qiblah of Islam.

The Tehran gathering attended by ministers, parliamentarians and leading figures from 60 countries including Palestinian leaders opposed to the Madrid negotiations, ended on a note of success. Its declaration was read out in mosques in Jordan and other states.

In Egypt, 150 Muslim activists, including two former deputies, were arrested Sunday while distributing leaflets condemning the Madrid conference, Cairo daily AL-AHRAM reported.

Meanwhile, both the Israelis and the Palestinians have hardened their positions before the start of the conference.

Yasir 'Arafat of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, whose compromising attitude has come in for criticism from Palestinians who are even questioning his credentials to represent them, said the stoppage of Jewish settlements would not be enough for the intifada to stop, but Israel must withdraw from occupied territories.

It is another matter how much weight 'Arafat's words carry for the actual leaders and organisers behind the four year old intifada.

Israel for its part has blamed the PLO for Monday's attacks and said it would avenge the killings.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak seems to have too much good faith in the Zionists. If he is to be believed, the

Madrid talks will not be "as difficult as we think. We are used to Israel hardening its position before negotiations."

However, there are few in Madrid who share Mubarak's views.

"I expect nothing coming out from Madrid. Things will remain as they are," a Saudi journalist told IRNA.

There is very little on the horizon to give the Palestinians hope that they will regain their land that they lost to Zionist occupation in 1948 through 'peace' talks in Madrid or elsewhere.

Navy Commander Says U.S. Wants To Dominate Gulf
LD2910223491 Tehran IRNA in English 1757 GMT
29 Oct 91

[Text] Bushehr, Oct. 29, IRNA—The American objective in the Persian Gulf is to establish domination over the oil resources of the region, and to destroy the Islamic culture, warned a naval commander here today. Admiral Ahmed Mohammed-Zadeh of the second naval zone of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), said Washington is trying to confront the Islamic revolution which has emerged as a major threat to the interests of world arrogance, "but the Iranian Armed Forces equipped with the necessary training are ready to thwart any possible intervention."

He added that in accordance with new plans the basij (volunteer) forces will be substantially increased next year.

Mohajerani—Arabs Should Have Nuclear Capability
LD3010111991 Belgrade TANJUG in English
0537 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Tehran, October 30 (TANJUG)—Iran maintains that Muslim countries must obtain a bomb if Israel is allowed to remain a nuclear power because, claims Tehran, every means must be exploited in order to eradicate Zionism.

One of Iran's vice-president, 'Ayatollah Mohajerani, said recently that the Muslim countries have the right to get nuclear armament. In this context he emphasized that what he had in mind was not a particular Islamic state but the "entirety" of these states. "Muslims should strive for progress in this field... and I hope they will achieve it," he said.

Mohajerani obviously believes that the bomb could be made, given the patience, adequate and available financial resources and, last but not least, the willingness of individual countries and experts to close their eyes to various embargoes for the sake of big profits. After all, Iraq, whose nuclear programme was stopped only after its invasion of Kuwait, is a good example for Iran and those who share its views.

At present Iran has in mind above all Pakistan, the Islamic country working for years on its nuclear armament, which does not seem to be financed only by Libya.

Iran is reported to have allocated 500 million dollars for nuclear research this year, while informed sources do not rule a possibility that "a zero has been forgotten" in the above figure.

Pakistan

Yang Shangkun Attends Lahore Civic Reception
BK2910162091 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in Urdu 1400 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] President Yang Shangkun of China and members of his delegation attended a civic reception held at Shalimar Bagh in Lahore this afternoon. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Punjab Governor Mian Mohammad Azhar, diplomatic representatives and some prominent figures attended the reception. Speaking on behalf of Yang Shangkun, the Chinese vice premier said that their current visit to Pakistan has been very useful. The visit has helped enhance the understanding and friendship between the two friendly neighboring countries and boost their cooperation.

Leaves Lahore for Tehran 30 Oct

BK3010062491 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in Urdu 0600 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Chinese President Yang Shangkun was given a very warm sendoff when he left Lahore for Tehran this morning by a special plane at the end of his five-day state visit to Pakistan. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan bade farewell to the distinguished guest. Punjab Governor Mian Mohammad Azhar, Punjab Assembly Speaker Mian Manzoor Ahmad Wattoo, Federal Minister for Science and Technology Elahi Bux Sumroo, provincial ministers, diplomatic representatives stationed in Lahore, and high officials were also present on the occasion. The Chinese president was presented two albums of pictures on his activities in Pakistan.

Talking to newsmen after seeing off President Yang Shangkun, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan described the Chinese president's visit as a great success and expressed the hope that it would yield positive results.

Khan Notes Identical Views With PRC

BK3010115091 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in English 1100 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has affirmed that there was complete identity of views between Pakistan and China on the proposed new world order. He was talking to newsmen on return to Islamabad this morning from Lahore, where he bade farewell to President Yang Shangkun of China who left for Tehran at the end of his

state visit to Pakistan. The president pointed out that it was against the policy of China to enter into defense pact with any country.

Referring to internal affairs, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan emphasized that he would continue to play his constitutional role in national interests and for consolidation of democratic order.

Sri Lanka

Tamils Said Planning Attacks at SAARC Summit

BK3010065891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0623 GMT 30 Oct 91

[Text] Colombo, Oct 30 (AFP)—Sri Lanka's dominant Tamil guerrillas are planning bomb attacks to coincide with the seven-nation summit of South Asian heads of state scheduled to be held here next week, local press reports said Wednesday.

Defence authorities had information that "terrorists"—an official euphemism for the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)—planned a "huge bomb attack" during the November 7-9 South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) summit, reports said.

SAARC groups Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

The Sinhala-language LANKADEEPA newspaper quoted Defence Secretary Cyril Ranatunga telling an emergency meeting of police officers and civilian volunteers Tuesday that public cooperation was essential to prevent sabotage.

Ranatunga said "terrorists" might smuggle bombs to the capital as they did during two previous attacks on the main military headquarters June 21 and in the March 2 slaying of junior defence minister Ranjan Wijeratne.

Authorities believe that both those attacks were carried out by the LTTE, although the group denied involvement. The rebel group was also blamed for the May 21 assassination of former Indian Premier Rajiv Gandhi.

Sri Lankan authorities have assured the SAARC countries that they will provide adequate security during the summit.

An estimated 10,000 policemen will be on duty during the conference, a police spokesman said, adding that security in the city had already been tightened.

The deluxe hotel where visiting heads of state and government are expected to stay has been closed to the public since Tuesday, more than one week ahead of the conference.

Police have already tightened security in the picturesque central hill town of Kandy, where visiting leaders will spend a half-day retreat November 8 before returning here by helicopter for bilateral talks.

Foreign Secretary Bernard Tilakaratna told reporters here that all SAARC leaders had confirmed their participation, but diplomatic sources said the duration of Indian premier Narasimha Rao's stay is still unclear.

Indian press reports have quoted officials as saying Rao had been advised to cut short his stay because of security considerations. Gandhi was killed by a woman suicide bomber in southern India, where the LTTE is known to have bases.

Parties Demand Independent Status in Parliament

BK2410115091 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Five political parties have said that they will no longer function with the joint opposition under the control of the opposition chief whip. These recognized political parties are the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress, the TULF, TELO, EROS, and ENDLF [Tamil United Liberation Front, Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization, Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students, and Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front]. Representatives of these political parties met the speaker, M.H. Mohamed, at his office in parliament this morning. They requested the speaker to recognize them in parliament as a separate independent group within the opposition. They also requested that they be allocated a maximum of three hours during every debate to enable them to put forward their views. The members who met the speaker were M.H.M. Ashroff, S.H.M. Abu Baker, M.M. Bahaiddin, M.L.A. Hizbullah of the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress; Mavai Senathirajah and P. Joseph of the TULF; G. Karunakaran and J. Tivyanathan of TELO; Basil Seikhudaud and M.A. Ayub of EROS; and K. Srinivasan of the ENDLF.